

TRAVEL FREE TO PARIS ON EUROSTAR

SEE PAGE 13 OF THE TUESDAY REVIEW FOR COUPON



# THE INDEPENDENT

No 3,717

TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 1998

(1R50p) 45p

IN THE BROADSHEET REVIEW



**Hamish McRae:**  
the year Japan  
went west

TUESDAY REVIEW FRONT

**Men. They're**  
enough to  
make you ill

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## Fury over 'greedy bosses' attack

BY BARRIE CLEMENT  
AND COLIN BROWN

CABINET MINISTERS were furious with the TUC president, John Edmonds, last night after he bluntly told the Government to take action against the "greedy bastards" in Britain's boardrooms instead of calling for pay restraint from Britain's 5 million public-sector workers.

In a head-on collision over the Government's economic strategy, Mr Edmonds called for interest rates to be cut, accused top executives of indulging in the "politics of the pig trough", denounced the "bloated rodents" who held top posts at the privatised water companies and called for tax rises for everyone earning more than £50,000 a year.

The Prime Minister and a string of cabinet ministers were due to arrive at the TUC conference in Blackpool today to smooth over the row, but ministers were said last night to be "spitting blood" over Mr Edmonds' outburst and claims that 300,000 more jobs were at risk.

"Rather than telling us how to run the country you would have thought the TUC would want to address the fact that their own membership is at an all-time low," said a cabinet source.

The Chancellor, Gordon Brown, who is flying to Japan today for a crisis meeting over the turmoil in world markets, was said to be "very angry". But Mr Brown made clear before leaving that there would be no change of strategy or a return to the "boom and bust" of the Tory years. "We are pursuing the right course of action for the British economy," he said.



John Edmonds, TUC president, heartily opened the Blackpool conference yesterday, with general secretary John Monks behind him, and Tony Dubbins

John Voss

The Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, traditionally a TUC favourite, also delivered a tough message to the conference that the Government had to keep to its strategy. He told

TUC delegates yesterday that union officials should stop talking Britain into a recession. In particular, he took issue with the comments of Ken Jackson, general secretary of the

Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union, who said the economy was "within hours" of diving into recession.

Mr Prescott also responded to Mr Edmonds' onslaught by

insisting that he had not forgotten his working-class roots. But Mr Edmonds had rapturous support for his attack on Mr Brown's economic strategy, including a claim that increases

in taxation were far better for damping down demand than keeping interest rates high at the expense of British industry.

To a roar of approval from the 800 delegates, Mr Edmonds

reserved some of his strongest invective for Stephen Byers, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, who has led calls for wage rises to be kept to a minimum. "My advice to Stephen Byers is

not to blame the workers, but to tell the truth about what goes on in the boardroom," Mr Edmonds said. "A company director who takes a pay rise of £50,000 when the rest of the workforce is getting a few hundred is not part of some general trend. He is a greedy bastard."

The Prime Minister will meet TUC leaders tonight for a private dinner at their Blackpool conference to reassure them that the Government recognises it must do more to tackle unemployment.

David Blunkett, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, will today announce a multimillion-pound regional strategy to cope with factory closures, such as the shutdown of the Fujitsu semi-conductor plant in Mr Blair's Sedgefield constituency. The jobs will be offered retraining, reskilling and higher education courses. On Thursday, Peter Mandelson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, will announce the establishment of "flying squads" to tackle areas in crisis after closures.

Mr Blair is expected to use a speech in his constituency tomorrow to announce the provision of grants enabling job-seekers to travel to areas where vacancies exist, echoing the "get on your bike" message from the 1980s by Lord Tebbit, the former Conservative Party chairman.

Mr Edmonds was accused of resorting to the "language of the saloon bar" by Simon Sperling, chief executive of the London Chamber of Commerce, who said company directors had generated economic growth, while union leaders had presided over a steep decline in their membership.

## 'Lyn' king' finds solace in Big Apple

BY DAVID USBORNE  
in New York

WHEN THE GOING gets tough, you turn to your friends - and so it was yesterday for Bill Clinton.

His presidency on the brink, Mr Clinton boarded the most visible symbol of the power of his office, Air Force One, and fled the scandal-steeped hot-house of Washington for a day in the Big Apple.

No place delivers distraction like New York City, as the President found - in his seat at a gala performance of Disney's "The Lion King", amid fat-cat Democratic donors during dinner at the Supper Club before curtain-up, even before an audience in the morning at the Council of Foreign Relations.

Never mind that the ghost of Monica still stalked him back home: this was New York, the city and the state that extricated him from Gennifer Flowers and his didn't inhale, dope-smoking flap with a big win in the presidential primaries back in 1992.

And the view from his limo seemed good. "Save the presidency, jail Kenneth Starr" proclaimed one banner as he arrived for his foreign policy speech.

For the White House, the day was a perfect projection of a pres-

ident going about business as usual. The "show", whether it is from Broadway or Pennsylvania Avenue, must "go on".

Later this week, there will be trips by the President to two cities, both likely to extend him

### INSIDE



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a consoling embrace, Boston, with its crowds of Irish-Americans, and Los Angeles, home to Clinton-friendly Hollywood.

True, a few voices spoil the

welcome. St Patrick's Cathedral, just a block from his Waldorf Hotel base, was not on his schedule. Cardinal John O'Connor had asked on Sunday which "decent-minded human being could be anything but repelled by the behaviour attributed to the President?"

And on the eve of today's gubernatorial and congressional primary elections in New York, Geraldine Ferraro, the former vice-presidential candidate, eschewed the opportunity to share in Disney's Broadway magic with the head of her party. Then there was the New York Post, Rupert Murdoch's Republican-friendly tabloid, gleefully dubbing the President the "Lyn' King".

But the stars rallied in force. The actor Kevin Spacey showed up for dinner and theatre, and so did the supermodel Naomi Campbell. Fears that some of the squeamish would skip the evening out did not materialise.

"Sex is sex. It happens, and it's been happening for a million years," said John Catsimatidis, a supermarket tycoon, explaining his decision to attend. "I don't know anyone who's committed adultery who hasn't lied about it."

## Dobson delays Viagra on NHS

BY JEREMY LAURANCE  
Health Editor

THOUSANDS OF impotence sufferers face a delay of up to a month before they know whether they can obtain the controversial drug Viagra on the NHS.

The drug is to be given its European licence today by officials in Brussels. Yesterday's decision by Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, to impose a temporary ban on its use on the NHS will mean a bonanza for private clinics and the black market, where the little blue pills have been available for months at up to £50 each.

Mr Dobson said expectations of the drug were so high that it could seriously drain NHS funds. "Other patients could be denied the treatment they need. I cannot allow this to happen. The potential availability of this drug raises issues about the priority which should be given to the treatment of impotence on the NHS."

Doctors estimated that the drug could cost the NHS more than £1bn, but that was if every one of the 2.5 million impotent men in the UK came forward for treatment and wanted sex four times a week. A more conservative estimate by the manufacturer, Pfizer, based on 30 per cent of affected men seeking

treatment and wanting sex once a week, suggested that the cost might reach £50m a year after five years - still four times the existing spending on treatments for impotence.

Mr Dobson said "definitive guidance" would be issued in the next few weeks, but in the meantime doctors should not prescribe Viagra save in "exceptional circumstances".

Ministers are determined to squash any perception of Viagra as a recreational drug. Alan Milburn, the health minister, has already indicated that prescribing will be restricted to hospital specialists only, but



specific advice is still awaited from the Standing Medical Advisory Committee.

Ministers are hoping that, after the expected surge of interest in the drug once it is licensed, demand will subside. In the US, where Viagra was launched last March, demand soared for the first three months, but fell suddenly as American men realised they did not want as much sex as they thought.

A spokesman for Pfizer said the natural effects of ageing and embarrassment over seeking help conspired to curb demand. "Let's face it, a lot of men are no longer interested in sex when they get older. It's a fact," he said. Derek Machin, secretary of the British Urological Association and a consultant urologist in Liverpool, said the temporary ban would put GPs in an untenable position.

"People who have had their expectations raised are going to go to their doctors to be told they can't get it," he said. "We have known for two years that this drug was coming and the day before it is licensed the Government says it hasn't had time to sort it out. I am not impressed."

World drug, page 3

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WATERING  
OYSTERS.  
(BUT NOT  
FROM OUR  
FOOD HALLS).



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## Pots of painting - by Picasso

Pots, bowls and figures made and painted by Picasso go on show at the Royal Academy this week in an exhibition designed by arch-minimalist Sophie Hicks. Page 11

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The Royal Tournament, a venerable institution for 118 years but declining in popularity for the past decade, is to be scrapped, it was announced yesterday. Page 11

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## Leprosy and loneliness in China

Lepers are no longer buried alive in China, nor are they still locked in "leprosy villages", but some sufferers, disfigured and disabled, prefer to stay in isolation. Page 16

## The killing fields of South Africa

More than 500 white farmers in South Africa have been murdered since 1994, and the white landowners are threatening to take the law into their own hands. Page 17

## BUSINESS NEWS

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## Oil companies in £800m deal

Consolidation among Britain's smaller oil exploration companies began yesterday with the £800m merger of British Borneo and Hardy Oil and Gas. Page 18

## SPORTS NEWS

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## £20m to spend at Aston Villa

John Gregory, the Aston Villa manager, promised to continue strengthening his squad by using the £20m he has available for new signings. Page 30

## Rose tries for European card

Justin Rose, the teenage golfer who finished fourth in the Open, joins 500 players in trying to win one of 35 cards to play on the European golf tour next year. Page 24

## TUESDAY REVIEW

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## Terence Blacker

'Lotteries have always gone down well in the world's poorer countries where despair, religious fantasy and cheap glamour feed off one another.' Page 4

## Anthony Clare

'Nothing very much is explained by labelling Clinton's sexual indiscretions the result of an addiction... We will almost certainly never know Clinton's sexual motivation. Even if he were to tell us we would not know whether to believe him.' Page 5

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Recycled paper made up 46.03 per cent of the raw material for UK newspapers in 1997

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& HOVERFERRY

# No-exit estates 'must be cleared'

BRITAIN HAS several thousand run-down estates where conditions are reaching crisis point, according to a stark report published by the Government today.

The Social Exclusion Unit, set up by Tony Blair to tackle the problems of Britain's underclass, paints a bleak picture of life in deprived areas that have become "no exit zones" for the forgotten residents and "no-go areas" for others. Ministers believe many of the worst estates will have to be razed.

The report admits that previous attempts by the Government to improve the inner cities have failed to stem their decline, and says they have even made the problems worse. Money has been wasted on improving the physical appearance of the blackspots rather than helping local people.

Unveiling the report in London today, Mr Blair will promise to launch the most concerted attack yet against social deprivation. But he will concede that it will take 10 to 20 years to turn problem areas around.

An investigation by the unit found that in England alone there were "several thousand neighbourhoods and estates whose condition was critical, or soon could be".

A wide-ranging demolition programme will be the only option for "irretrievable"

BY ANDREW GRICE  
Political Editor

estates hit by a downward spiral of crime, drugs, empty homes and vandalism.

"There is no point going into the next century keeping estates that nobody wants to live in," Downing Street said. "Like a sinking ship, you have to save the people rather than the buildings."

But ministers will promise to allow local people to help to draw up local action plans, instead of "parachuting" in solutions from outside.

Mr Blair is adopting a high-risk strategy by promising to solve the problems, which have defeated previous administrations. Last night he said that successive governments had neglected the poor neighbourhoods for almost 30 years.

In an introduction, Mr Blair promises to bridge the widening gap between the poorest neighbourhoods and the rest of Britain. Admitting it will not be easy, he says: "I believe that it can be done. Indeed, if we are to bring Britain back together, it has to be done."

Conditions on the worst estates were simply not acceptable. "It shames us as a nation."

The Prime Minister will promise that his ministers will publish by the end of next year the co-ordinated strategy.



The Arnolfini portrait by Van Eyck hangs in Mirror Image, an exhibition on reflection selected by Jonathan Miller, which will be opening at the National Gallery in London tomorrow  
Brian Harris

# Beef ban could be lifted by Christmas

THE GOVERNMENT put a target date on the lifting of the European beef ban yesterday in its most optimistic statement yet over efforts to conclude the two-and-a-half year dispute.

On his first visit to Brussels as Agriculture Minister, Nick Brown, who was promoted to the Cabinet in the summer reshuffle, said it was his "objective to get the issue resolved before Christmas". His comments raise the stakes over the ban, although he conceded that the issue would not be addressed "until after the German elections" at the end of the month. That effectively gives Mr Brown just three months to achieve his new target.

BY STEPHEN CASTLE  
In Brussels

Mr Brown's optimism marks a change of tone from the Government, which has so far been cautious about giving any time-scale for a lifting of the ban. The minister was, however, careful to stress that this was an objective, rather than a firm commitment.

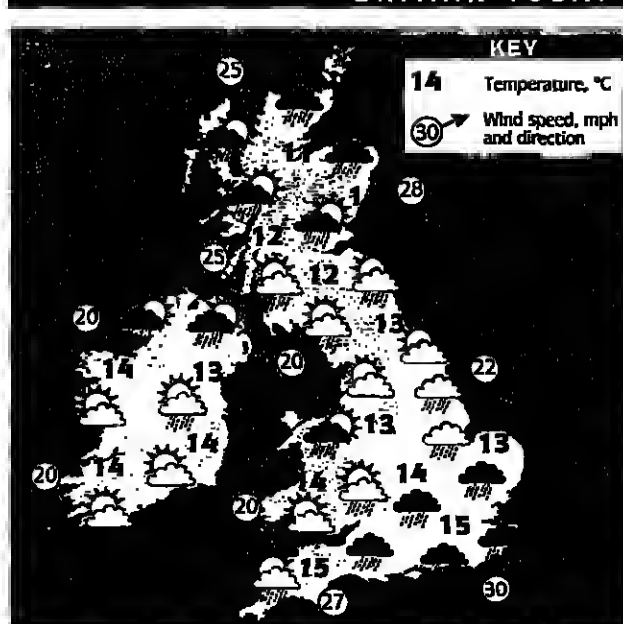
Progress has already been made and exports of beef from Northern Ireland, where a computer-tracking system is in operation, is now permitted. Before the summer break, the European Commission put forward a proposal for a lifting of the moratorium on beef exports under a date-based scheme that would allow the sale of beef from all cattle born after August 1996 - the overwhelming majority of British meat. However, no vote has yet been taken and Germany, where consumers are particularly sensitive to food safety issues, has been more resistant to a quick move.

Yesterday, Mr Brown said that Austria, which had also been thought to be cautious, was anxious to take a "relatively neutral position" because it was in the presidency. The minister added that the EC's latest inspection report on conditions in Britain was "broadly supportive" despite some caveats. And he said there was no reason to suppose that recent worries about transmission of BSE to sheep would harm his efforts to get the ban lifted.

Mr Brown took over as Agriculture Minister from Jack Cunningham in the summer reshuffle. Some feared the change of personnel could delay efforts to get the beef ban lifted, but Mr Brown stressed yesterday that there had been continuity among officials dealing with BSE.

transmission of BSE to sheep would harm his efforts to get the ban lifted.

## BRITAIN TODAY



## FORECAST

General situation: Cold and windy in Scotland with showers. Northern Ireland and northern England will be cool and blustery with a mix of sunny spells and passing showers. Remaining parts of England and Wales will be cloudy with rain, but skies will brighten in most parts for the afternoon with some sunny breaks developing.

**E & SE England, London, E Anglia, E Midlands:** Wet but brightening in the afternoon. A light and variable wind later moderate north-westerly. Max temp 14-17C (57-63F).

**East of England, W Midlands:** Wet then sunny spells and scattered showers later. A moderate southerly wind later north-westerly. Max temp 14-16C (57-61F).

**SW England, S Wales:** Rain clearing to sun and scattered showers. A moderate to fresh west to north-west wind. Max temp 14-16C (57-61F).

**Channel Is:** Wet then sun and showers. A strong south-west wind later north-west. Max temp 17C (63F).

**West Yorkshire:** Late rain, late of rain, W Ireland: Rain, then sunny spells. A moderate to fresh north-west wind. Max temp 14-16C (57-61F).

**East of England, S Wales:** Sunny spells and showers. A moderate to fresh north-west wind. Max temp 13-16C (55-61F).

**SW Scotland, Glasgow:** Morning showers then sunny spells. A fresh north-west wind. Max temp 13-15C (55-59F).

**WV Scotland, W & W Isles:** Showery. A strong north to north-west wind. Max temp 12-15C (54-59F).

**SE & NE Scotland, Edinburgh, Aberdeen:** Showery. A fresh to strong north-west wind. Max temp 12-15C (54-59F).

## OUTLOOK

Dull and cool with rain in the north and east on Wednesday, sunny spells and scattered showers in the south and west. Rain in the south and west on Thursday but sun and scattered showers in the north and east.

## TRAVEL

Roads: West Midlands: M5 between J5 (Preston) and J2 (Dudley). Resurfacing work with narrow lanes both ways. Until 12th October.

West Yorkshire: M1 between J43 (Skipton) and J42 (Lofthouse interchange) (M62). Roadworks with 50mph speed limit. Until 1st November.

Buckinghamshire: M40 between junctions 1a (M25) & 9 Wycombe East. Three narrow lanes both ways and a 50 mph speed limit in force. Until 1st January 1999.

Berks: M1 between J10 Maidenhead and J7 Slough. New road layout with a 50mph speed limit in a new half-mile carriageway during flood relief work. Until 30th November.

Bristol: M5 J18-19. Major roadworks on Avonmouth Bridge. Until 1st January 2001.

Suffolk: A14. Various restrictions in place. Until 31st December 1998.

AA Roadwatch: Call 0336 401777 for the latest local and national traffic news. Source: The Automobile Association.

Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

## YESTERDAY

## EXTREMES

Warmest: Hythe, 18C (64F)  
Coldest (day): Mynydd, 12C (54F)  
Wettest: Tavistock, 0.83 in  
Sunniest: Hythe, 8.4 hrs  
For 24hrs to 2pm Monday

Loc	Sun	Shade	Max	Min
Aberdeen	6.1	0.10	12	54
Anglesey	6.8	0.05	14	57
Arundel	2.0	0.02	11	52
Belfast	3.5	0.25	11	52
Birmingham	4.3	0.27	12	54
Bournemouth	7.8	0.10	16	61
Bristol	6.5	0.30	14	57
Buxton	4.7	0.22	10	50
Cardiff	n/a	0.19	15	59
Cardigan	8.0	0.08	14	57
Carmarthen	5.9	0.09	15	59
Caswell	2.5	0.08	11	52
Chester	7.0	0.20	15	59
Colchester	6.2	0.31	13	55
Consett	7.0	0.08	16	61
Croft	5.4	0.21	13	55
Croston	7.3	0.10	15	59
Darlington	6.2	0.04	15	59
Derby	7.5	0.22	13	55
Doncaster	6.6	0.20	15	59
Dorchester	4.8	0.18	16	61
Durham	5.4	0.15	13	55
Edinburgh	8.2	0.01	12	54
Exeter	5.5	0.09	14	57
Gloucester	7.5	0.09	15	59
Grimsby	3.8	0.21	12	54
Hatfield	6.6	0.06	16	61
Hemel Hempstead	5.9	0.48	13	55
Hertford	7.0	0.38	11	52
Huddersfield	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Ilkeston	5.2	0.16	14	57
Isle of Wight	0.6	0.17	15	59
Leamington	7.9	0.10	14	57
Leeds	5.4	0.15	13	55
Leicester	7.2	0.22	16	61
Liverpool	6.1	0.01	11	52
Luton	4.9	0.24	13	55
Manchester	7.2	0.04	n/a	n/a
Marlow	n/a	0.28	13	55
Middlesbrough	7.0	0.15	13	55
Morecambe	6.9	0.15	16	61
Murphy	9.9	0.33	15	59
Norwich	8.1	0.07	17	63
Nottingham	5.9	0.37	15	59
Oldham	7.2	0.22	16	61

## HIGH TIDES

Loc	AM	HT	PM	HT
Avonmouth	2.45	10.2	3.21	10.2
Cardiff	1.22	3.8	2.02	3.8
Dunbarton	1.33	4.5	2.07	4.8
Dover	7.09	5.5	7.56	5.6
Don Langhorne	8.03	3.6	8.38	3.6
Edinburgh	1.04	4.3	1.58	4.4
Glasgow	8.21	3.0	8.33	3.1
Harwich	7.59	3.4	8.22	3.5
Holyhead	6.49	4.8	7.28	4.8
London	2.05	7.3	2.56	7.3
London (Plymouth)	2.05	7.3	2.56	7.3
London (Lymington)	2.11	5.2	3.05	5.3
Leith	11.06	4.7	11.39	4.8
Liverpool	7.23	7.7	8.04	7.8
Millford Haven	1.09	5.4	2.49	5.5
Newquay	1.05	5.5	1.50	5.5
Plymouth	2.09	1.3	2.51	1.4
Portsmouth	7.53	4.0	8.24	4.0
Portsmouth	4.14	3.6	4.58	3.6
Scarborough	12.51	4.8	n/a	n/a
Wick	7.41	2.9	8.13	3.0

## AIR QUALITY

Loc	NO <sub>2</sub>	Mod	O <sub>3</sub>	Gd
London	Gd	Gd	Gd	Gd
SE England	Gd	Gd	Gd	Gd
Wales	Gd	Gd	Gd	Gd
C England	Gd	Gd	Gd	Gd
N England	Gd	Gd	Gd	Gd
Scotland	Gd	Gd	Gd	Gd
N Ireland	Gd	Gd	Gd	Gd

## SUN &amp; MOON

Sun rises: 06.35  
Sun sets: 19.16  
Moon rises: 00.53  
Moon sets: 16.43  
Moon phase: Waxing crescent  
September 20th

## WEATHERLINE

For the latest forecasts dial 0800 5000 followed by the two digits for your area. Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

## RAIN OR SHINE

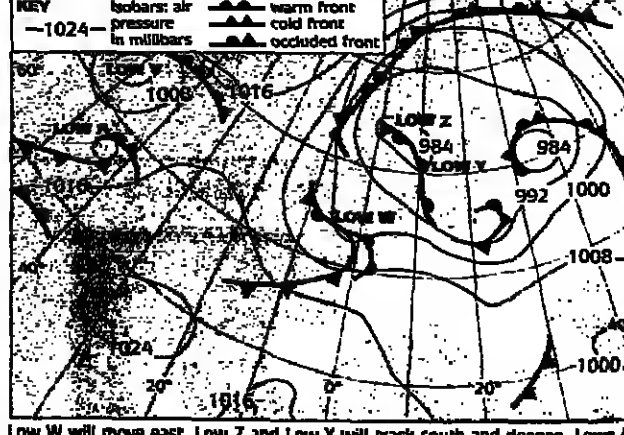
BELGIUM SUFFERED the worst rains for 50 years yesterday.

Rivers burst their banks during the deluge which started on Sunday, and by noon yesterday villages were cut off, telephone lines cut and residents were being rescued by paratroopers. Close to Antwerp, the roof of a supermarket caved in under the pressure. No one was injured.

## THE WORLD



## THE ATLANTIC NOON TODAY



## THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Closely related: <i>Adelphi</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , <i>Hydrobia</i> , 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# Hype, hope and hysteria: welcome to the pill that's made the world quiver

BY KATHY MARKS

IF YOUR erection lasts for more than four hours, consult a doctor immediately. And stop sniggering at the back of the class, *Tompkinson-Minor*.

Viagra is a serious business. It has brought hope to thousands of men who suffer from erectile dysfunction. The impotence pill has also been responsible for a plague of bad puns, and the worst epidemic of schoolboy humour since medical records began.

How many times have we read about shares in Pfizer, the company that makes the wonder drug, rising as spectacularly as the afflicted organ? Or about "hardened" criminals peddling counterfeit versions on the black market?

It is not only headline writers who have been snoring with laughter since Viagra burst on to the scene. There was the airline pilot who, banned by Air New Zealand from taking it lest it impair his flying ability, observed: "Maybe they're worried we'll get too much lift when we take off."

Viagra has every ingredient that one could wish for in a news story. Sex, of course, lashings of it, together with the salacious details justified by the important medical angle.

Politics, too, earlier this month it was reported that election candidates in Taiwan were bribing rural voters with bottles of the diamond-shaped tablets.

And gender wars: disgruntled women demanded to know why female sexual dysfunction was not receiving the same degree of scientific scrutiny. It was not long before rumours spread that the drug worked for women too. One guinea pig, Annie Williams, told a tabloid newspaper: "Once Viagra kicks in, your only interest is pleasure. Having an orgasm, or three, is easy."

Not to be outdone, rival companies designed drugs specifically for the girls, including the evocatively named *Erogenex*.

Then came Viagra wars: as the hype and hysteria grew, there was a dash to claim credit for inventing the drug. Pfizer said that it was a team effort, but one British scientist, Dr Nicholas Terrett, begged to differ, pointing out that his name was on two patents.

Talking of inventions, when Bristol consultant urologist Clive Gingell conducted the first pilot study of the chemical compound used in Viagra, he used a device called a Rigiscan

**Walgreen**  
**DRIVE THRU PHARMACY**

**GREAT GIFTS FOR MOM  
WE HAVE VIAGRA  
1-HOUR PHOTO**

A shop in Phoenix, Arizona, offering holiday gift ideas. Will the remarkable popularity of Viagra make similar scenes familiar in Britain, too?

Mark Henle/AP

to measure the girth of penises of volunteers and their degree of rigidity in response to the drug. "The results were remarkable," he said. "You could see an increase in the quality and duration of erections."

Finally, every good story needs the added spice of danger, and in that respect Viagra did not disappoint. After the initial euphoria came the first reports of side-effects such as blurred vision: a relatively minor problem, patients may have thought, a small sacrifice in the pursuit of pleasure.

Then came the warnings about the potentially dire effect of unaccustomed exertion on

men with weak hearts. And inevitably, the lengthening list of fatalities: 60 in four months, as one newspaper pointed out; another article asked: "Did he die with a smile on his face?"

Joking aside, what man could suppress a shiver at the fate that befell a Dutch tourist who decided to experiment with Viagra while on holiday in Spain? The 50-year-old, according to reports, was in a state of agonising tumescence for 36 hours. His plight was eased by doctors at an Alicante casualty unit, who treated him with a lotion normally used to shrink nasal tissue.

Pity, too, the hapless Harley

Street doctor who tried the drug out on himself before prescribing it. "First of all, I went bright red and my eyes began to bulge out of my head," said Dr Richard Petty, medical director of the Wellman Clinic.

"Then my neck started to swell around my collar. My partner started laughing like a drain as soon as she saw me. I had the most whopping hangover, which lasted for hours, although the pill did have the desired effect."

Some elderly patients have turned violent after taking Viagra. An 89-year-old Florida man attacked a woman with a crowbar when she spurned his

advances. In Argentina, pensioners have turned down an offer of free Viagra from the state, accusing the authorities of "trying to kill us off".

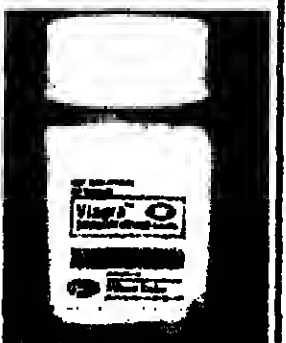
It has not all been bad news. At the Moonlight Bumyranch brothel in Nevada, business is

said to be booming as older men patronise the establishment again. In Vienna, impotent theatre lovers can buy half-price tickets for the world's first play about the drug: *Viagra Makes It Possible 99 Times a Day*.

Now spare a thought for the

French fertility expert who claims his career is under threat because patients no longer take him seriously. According to Dr Ronald Virag: "People think I am the inventor of the drug. I am frequently called Dr Viagra."

## VIAGRA VIGNETTES



A slow and rhythmic creaking  
From ancient marriage beds  
An alms-house warden  
Hearing, down his cup  
A wife turns off a wireless  
Bought grey decades ago  
Suggesting they go up

The plumping-up of pillows  
A naughty nightie found  
A frisson of relief  
And recognition  
A resurrected chimney  
From lost industrial ground  
Awaits her demolition

Relaxing at the golf links  
A doctor says it's good  
But curses  
His prescription writer's  
cramp  
Then, handicap forgotten  
Selects himself a wood  
As Eros pitches camp

In satiated small hours  
The beast with two bad backs  
Lies chafed in petit mort  
And de-tumescence  
As vacuum pumps lie dusty  
In dressing table drawers  
And gather obsolescence

Then shaky-legged, a nation  
Goes trembling off to work  
Salacious sunlight  
Bakes the bedroom floor  
And on the tell-tale clothes lines  
The sheets and duvets jerk  
Like so much semaphore.

MARTIN NEWELL

## AND THE MEN WHO USE AND RECOMMEND IT



**BOB DOLE**  
The American presidential candidate who stood against Bill Clinton in 1996, was the first public figure to admit trying Viagra. "It's a great drug... I participated in the trial programme," said Mr Dole, 74. The senior Republican, who suffered impotence problems after undergoing surgery for prostate cancer in 1991, added: "Depending on what your problem may be, it can certainly help."



**JERRY SPRINGER**  
The US talk-show host, said the drug made him a "sex addict" after he was caught with a porn star, Kendra Jade, who appeared on his show. "I thought I was a sex superman," said Springer, 54. He was later said to have been thrown out by his wife when she learnt of a secret film made of her husband with Jade and her stepmother, Kelly, sold by the same internet company that made millions from an X-rated video featuring Pamela Anderson.



**HUGH HEFNER**  
The 72-year-old *Playboy* mogul, endorsed the drug recently when he said it turned him into a "babe magnet". "It permits you to perform as you like to think you were performing in your twenties and thirties," said the soft-porn purveyor. His estranged wife, Kimberly Conrad, fearing for his health, said he had "gone girl-crazy again", adding "he's already suffered one stroke. If he goes on like this, trying to push back the clock, he'll have another."



**BOB MONKHOUSE**  
Was quoted at the weekend as saying that the drug "works after 40 minutes and lasts for about 90 minutes". Speaking about his active sex life as a younger man, the 70-year-old comedian told a newspaper: "My generation was at it all day long, as well as all night. They did it a lot more than the previous generation... I was just fortunate with the timing."

## 'Turn Willy into meatballs'

**KEIKO** THE killer whale, the captive star of the film *Free Willy* who is now being groomed for freedom himself, should be turned into meatballs, according to a pro-whaling Norwegian MP.

Spending millions of dollars on preparing Keiko for return to the ocean is "a lunatic waste of money", according to Steinar Bastesen, former head of the Norwegian whalers' association. Instead, the four-ton orca, who last week was flown from Oregon in the US to a huge seapen in the Vestmanna Islands off

BY MICHAEL MCCARTHY  
Environment Correspondent

Iceland, should be turned into food aid, Mr Bastesen reckons. Keiko's carcass, he thinks, would yield about 60,000 meatballs, which could be sent to the starving children of the Sudan. The 53-year-old Independent MP, the only one in Norway's parliament, represents the Lofoten Islands, the country's whaling area. He has been whaling since he was eight and still hunts minke whales in the summer.

"There are more than enough killer whales around - we don't need to import them," he said. "Anyway, the only good killer whale is a dead one."

His views were not appreciated by the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society, the British group that has been supporting the efforts of the Free Willy/Keiko Foundation to bring about the first successful return of a captive orca to the wild. "I don't think it's a particularly constructive comment," said its campaigns co-ordinator, Fran Clarke.

Keiko's return to the ocean from a Mexican aquarium has so far cost about \$12.5m (£7.5m). Last week he was flown to Iceland, where he was captured in 1979, from the site of his initial "convalescence" in a tank in Newport, Oregon.

The new home is another and bigger tank, 76 metres by 30 and open to the sea.

Already, Keiko has been seen vocalising with a pilot whale visitor, and chasing fish. However, it may be months before Keiko is ready for full release, if at all.

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# Impeachment reopens the party divides

THE BIPARTISAN robes that Congress donned as the Starr report was released already look frayed. Democrats and Republicans are squabbling over the terms of any inquiry into President Bill Clinton, an ugly sign of what may be worse fights to come.

The path that could lead to impeachment will start to be mapped today, but it could be months before any inquiry formally opens and next year before any decision on impeachment is reached. The two sides are arguing over the timetable, procedures and appropriate punishment.

There is a formidable array of detail that has yet to be agreed. The Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives meets today to establish rules under which it would conduct an initial probe, and that should be agreed by the full House tomorrow.

The committee will examine the Starr report and all the evidence that goes with it until 28 September, when it must report back to Congress. Full impeachment hearings would require another resolution and, while that may come in the next few weeks, it is uncertain whether these would begin this year. Congress adjourns on 9 October to prepare for elections on 3 November and, although

BY ANDREW MARSHALL  
in Washington

representatives could be called back, the elections blow a hole in the timetable for hearings.

Strategically, the Republicans have an interest in dragging out proceedings, since every day they are under way is another day the President is under attack. The Democrats will want to close things as rapidly as possible, if for no other reason than to contain the damage in the elections.

That ensures a battle as the two sides seek to extract tactical advantage. What makes it worse is that the Judiciary Committee contains some of the most ideologically zealous members of Congress, each only too aware that they are in the limelight.

There is already a battle between Democrats and Republicans over terms of the initial inquiry, with Henry Hyde, committee chairman, pressing for extensive and draconian powers, including the right to arrest witnesses who refuse to testify. He also reportedly wants to be able to brush aside claims of executive privilege, which the Clinton administration has repeatedly used in its defence.

John Conyers, the senior Democrat on the committee, is furious that Mr Hyde wants to

ignore Watergate precedents - Mr Conyers is the only remaining person on the panel to have been through the hearings on Richard Nixon's impeachment - and negotiations stalled completely last week.

The Democrats have started to propose congressional censure, a slap on the wrist and a fine, rather than impeachment as the appropriate way to discipline Mr Clinton. The Republicans repudiate this, saying that the impeachment process must take its course.

Large, expensive teams of lawyers are being assembled. On the Judiciary Committee, the leading officials behind the Republican Congressmen are Thomas Mooney, 55, the chief of staff and a 30-year committee veteran, and David Schippers, 38, who arrived four months ago. Mr Schippers, as a Chicago prosecutor, helped to jail the mobster Sam Giancana. A devoted Democrat, his presence is intended to confirm the impartiality of any inquiry.

Their Democrat counterparts are Julian Epstein, 37, who worked for Mr Conyers for 14 years, and Abe Lowell, 46, who will be chief advocate for the defence. Mr Lowell previously defended such tarnished figures as former House speaker Jim Wright and former congressman Dan Rostenkowski.



Bill and Hillary Clinton walking across the White House South Lawn to his helicopter for a flight to New York for fund-raising events in the city *Reuters*

## Blair will stand by his man

TONY BLAIR promised Bill Clinton yesterday he was not a "fair-weather friend" and would stand by him as he struggles to survive as President.

Downing Street even dismissed the significance of the Starr report. "The Prime Minister doesn't dump people because some report appears on the Internet," said Mr Blair's official spokesman.

He made his remarks as it became clear that the tide of American public opinion is starting to turn in Mr Clinton's favour and the prospects of impeachment are receding.

In the strongest expression of support for Mr Clinton during the sex scandal crisis that has engulfed the White House, the spokesman said Mr Blair would dismiss calls by some Labour MPs for him to distance himself from the beleaguered President.

Some MPs fear Mr Blair may be damaged by this close association with Mr Clinton, especially if the President is forced out of office.

They want him to scrap plans to meet Mr Clinton in New York next Monday.

Downing Street insisted, however, that the meeting would go ahead.

It would take place at a conference of centre-left parties on the global economy and the "third way" policy agenda sought by Mr Blair and Mr Clinton as an alternative to the "old right and left".

Mr Blair's spokesman said it

BY ANDREW GRICE  
Political Editor

was in Britain's national interest to maintain a close relationship with the leader of the world's most powerful country.

"He sees President Clinton as a very good friend and ally to this country, not least for what he has done on several occasions for the Northern Ireland peace process," the Number 10 spokesman said.

"This report is a matter for the American Congress and the American people."

"The Prime Minister is not a fair-weather friend and whether people like it or not, that's the way he operates."

Never the less, some differences between the two leaders have emerged during their telephone conversations about the world's economic problems.

Mr Clinton, anxious to be seen on the international stage to deflect attention from his domestic crisis, is keen to call a meeting of leaders of the Group of Seven (G7) leading industrial nations.

But Mr Blair, who currently chairs the G7, does not want to summon fellow leaders to a summit unless he is convinced it would achieve tangible results.

Aides say he wants to avoid a "talking shop" meeting which would be dismissed by commentators as a "damp squib".

A decision on whether to call such a meeting would be taken in the next two weeks.

## 'They investigated my sex life once - report filled 36 boxes'

CIGARS, ANYONE? How about a little tearful repentance over breakfast? Much of the White House fiasco sounds like the script of a raunchy, off-the-wall comedy show.

But America's comics are treading around the Clinton crisis with uncharacteristic caution, apparently unsure whether to laugh or wince.

BY ANDREW GUMBEL  
in Los Angeles

At Sunday night's Emmy ceremony in Hollywood, usually an opportunity for presenters to let rip on the big issues of the day, the scandal in Washington was largely ignored. A roster of stars, from Tom Hanks down, were all given cues to spill out

Clinton jokes, but few seized them.

"This is not the place," said a stern-faced Billy Crystal, the television awards' master of ceremonies. "It's such a horrible thing. It's not funny to me, it's sad."

Those who tried to make light of the Starr report's explicit sexual detail ended up

sounding rather lame. "Early in comedy this was used as a prop," ventured the comedian Chris Rock as he brandished a lengthy cigar. "It still is."

Elsewhere on the airwaves, the doyen of late-night chat shows, David Letterman, barely gave the Clinton affair a mention. Only Jay Leno, host of *The Tonight Show*, really rel-

ished the subject and breathed any life into it.

"This Ken Starr report is now posted on the Internet. I'll bet Clinton's glad he put a computer in every classroom now," said Leno. "I think secretly he's bragging to his buddies in the White House locker room: 'Yeah, they investigated my sex life. Needed 36 boxes'."

Part of the problem for the nation's comics is that oral sex, masturbation with a cigar, and the rest, are not normally considered subjects fit for airing on network television.

Comedians, far more acutely than members of Congress, have to consider public sensibilities, and the public is more embarrassed than amused.

Letters in the US newspapers complained yesterday about the unnecessary explicitness of Ken Starr's revelations, and recommended endless anecdotes of the difficulties in explaining the whole thing to over-inquisitive children.

Sharper wit came from political columnists. Ronald Brownstein, writing in the *Los*

*Angeles Times*, described the Starr report as "an X-rated version of 'Green Eggs and Ham'", the children's classic by Dr Seuss. "Did they fondle in the mess? Was the president on the phone? Did she talk dirty from her home?"

The joke seems to be as much on Ken Starr as Bill Clinton.



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**Peter Morgan, Reuters**

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# Ulster finds a new home for old foes

BY DAVID MCKITTRICK  
Ireland Correspondent

THEY WERE all there yesterday for the first meeting of the new Belfast assembly in the old Stormont: the good, the bad and the ugly, those who incited violence, those who used it, and those who have suffered from it.

Yesterday they all seemed to have found a political home together in the chamber of the old Stormont parliament which was deliberately shut down in 1972 and accidentally burnt down in 1994.

The old chamber has, like some of its new members with dubious pasts, now undergone a process of rehabilitation and has reopened for what some yesterday declared to be the new politics and the new disposition for Northern Ireland.

The old issues were still there: Ulster Unionist leader David Trimble repeating his warning that Sinn Féin would not be welcome in government until the IRA was "prepared to destroy the weapons of war". But he said he would welcome those who were genuine about "crossing the bridge from terror to democracy".

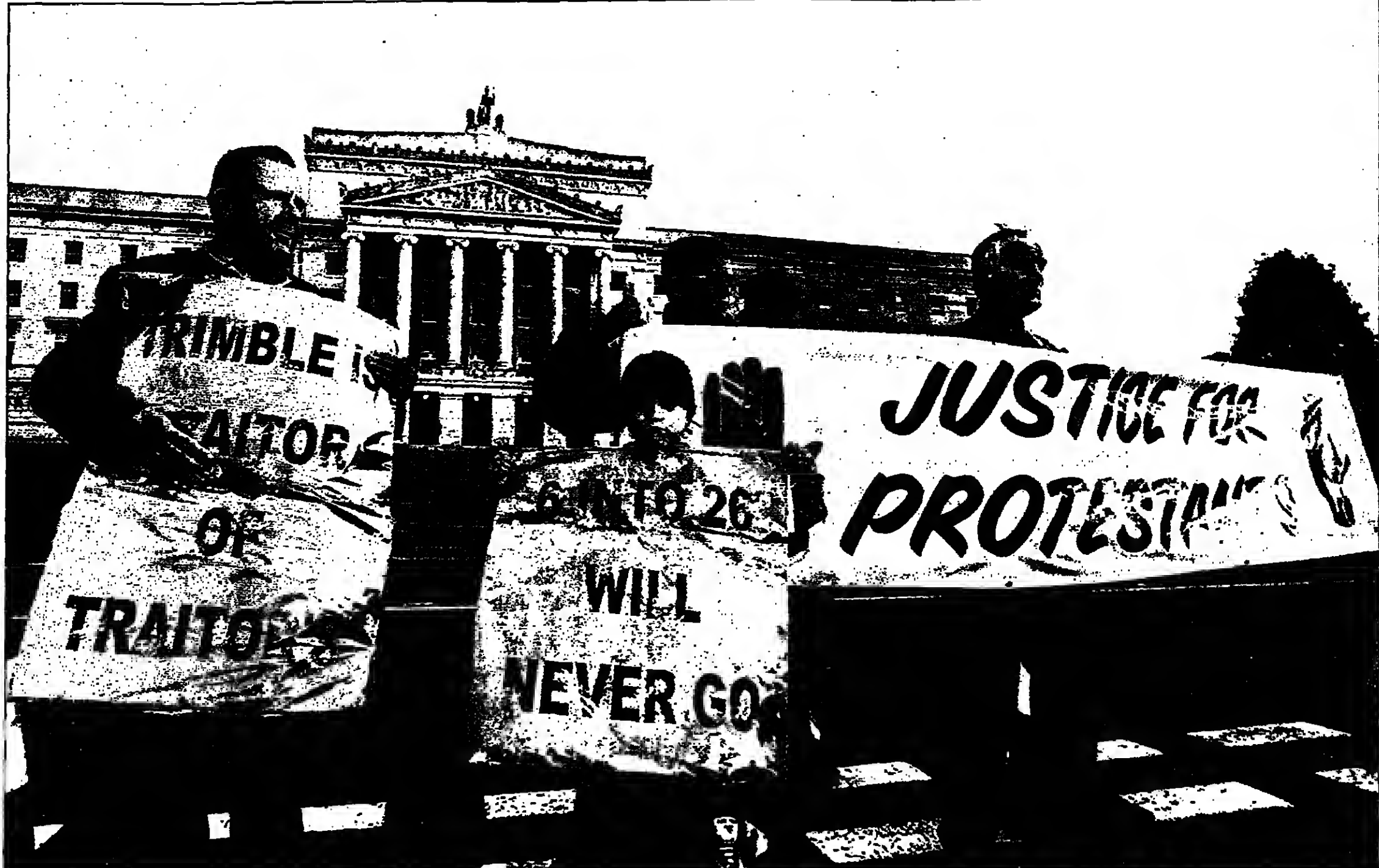
In a speech which caught something of the day's largely positive tone, he declared: "We are in the fortunate position of struggling with democratic constitutional arrangements rather than struggling with the politics of the latest atrocity."

There were, however, some bridges which looked like they would never be crossed. The Rev Ian Paisley may have sat only 15 feet away from Sinn Féin's Martin McGuinness but the inclusive philosophy of the peace process looks unlikely to pervade their relationship.

Mr Paisley denounced Gerry Adams as "the leader of IRA/Sinn Féin in this house", a Sinn Féin member retorted that some Unionists might have their own paramilitary associations.

There was also verbal swordplay on the question of the use of the Irish language in the chamber, which Mr Adams wants and Mr Paisley does not, and on the question of whether the Union Jack should fly over Stormont, where their positions are the opposite.

Most of the rhetoric about looking to the future came from Mr Trimble, who is chief min-



Members of the Justice for Protestants group outside Stormont, led by the Democratic Unionist Party's Jack McKee (right), demand a Union flag over the building. Paul Faith/Pacemaker Press

ister designate, and from his deputy, Seamus Mallon of the nationalist SDLP.

Mr Mallon, referring in friendly fashion to "David and I", said the Omagh bombing and other violence meant it had been a cruel summer, but one which had given them a greater sense of purpose to create something absolutely new.

"A new politics has begun," he said. "It's time for responsibility and commitment, for

taking responsibility for our own lives."

There was humour too, as Mr Trimble's faithful Unionist deputy, John Taylor, said they should congratulate the Northern Ireland team who had won a shooting competition at the Commonwealth Games.

"I'm glad to see Mr Adams laughing," he added jovially, "because it was with legal firearms."

The reconstructed Stormont

chamber provided a sumptuous backdrop for the new politics with its blue leather seats, gorgeous wood panelling (Spanish walnut) and stately columns topped with much gilt. Everyone gets a seat, the more prominent members having a desk as well.

After this splendour, the utilitarian basement canteen proved a great leveller. Men who had just been jutting their jaws at each other across the

chamber were suddenly reduced to people looking for their lunch, queuing together in uneasy proximity before dispersing to tables on a party basis.

Then it was back upstairs for more politics. The Unionists are anxious to move ahead on a number of fronts, in particular sorting out the number of departments, and thus ministers, the new administration should have. But they want to

move slowly on actually forming an executive, demanding arms decommissioning as the price of Sinn Féin entry.

Sinn Féin, however, want an executive formed as soon as possible, with their party taking two seats on it. Their urgency on this front is in contrast to decommissioning, where they want a slow-motion approach.

Mr Paisley, meanwhile, is saying he wants two executive seats. His party should run

two departments, he argues, but it would do so as free agents, not sitting down with Sinn Féin. Most other parties believe the executive should be, in Mr Mallon's words, a single, coherent, consistent body. The question of what to do with Mr Paisley has thus joined that of what to do with Sinn Féin.

New dispensation or not, nationalists and Unionists are arrayed on opposite sides of the chamber. In the middle, where

the two sets of benches converge, some independents and small parties form a cordon sanitaire between the two big blocs.

Perhaps this will loosen up as time goes by and when this new assembly makes progress in the long slow business of building new political arrangements and eventually new relationships and, perhaps, trust in place of the enmity of the past.

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## Scissor attack stops rapist

A WOMAN grabbed a pair of scissors and fought off a man who had raped her when she feared he was about to rape her 10-year-old daughter.

"I just wanted to stay alive and to protect her," the 35-year-old victim told police. "The man was a stranger and said he had a knife and would kill us. I have never seen such a look of terror as I saw on my daughter's face."

The terrified young girl was forced to witness her mother's rape in an attack which was described by police as a "nightmare."

The man had knocked on the door of the victim's flat on the Waltham Estate in Brixton, south London, then forced his way in. Scotland Yard said the victim was overpowered and terrified by the man, who was more than six feet tall.

He made the frightened woman strip, raped and seriously sexually assaulted her in front of her daughter. He then indecently assaulted her daughter.

When the mother realised he intended to rape her daughter, too, she attacked him with a pair of scissors, then ran naked on to the balcony of her flat to summon help from the neighbours. The man escaped.

Detective Inspector Steve Putnam of Brixton CID said the attack had shocked and upset police. Seeing the look of terror on her daughter's face, "she did what any mother or father would have done and summoned up a reserve of strength."

BY GEORGINA PATTINSON

DI Putnam said it could have been a random attack, but police were worried that he might strike again. "We don't know why he attacked her."

The attack took place on Sunday, 6 September. The man police are hunting is described as white with blond, swept-back hair, about 30, with an oval face, blue eyes and pale complexion.

Police have issued an e-fit and have asked anyone who recognises him to call Brixton CID on 0171-326 1212 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

## IN BRIEF

### Five die in minibus crash

FIVE PEOPLE were killed when a lorry collided head-on with a school minibus on the main Dublin to Wexford in County Wicklow in Eire yesterday. The dead included the minibus driver, a female helper, a teenage girl and two young boys. The driver of a truck was later arrested.

### Record number of London tourists

THE NUMBER of people visiting London is at a record level - up 10 per cent in 1997 to 28 million - despite the strength of the pound, according to figures released yesterday. But tourists are spending less time and money there.

### Tesco to sell Apple's iMac

TESCO is to sell Apple's iMac personal computer through two of its stores, in Cardiff and Stirling, for a trial period. Tesco is Britain's first supermarket to sell computers - starting with models from Fujitsu and Siemens-Nixdorf.

### Jodrell Bank seeks aliens

BRITISH RADIO astronomers yesterday joined a Californian-based attempt to detect signals from outer space, using the huge dish at Jodrell Bank in Cheshire.

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# Doctors hail new drug for women

THE PROMISE of protection in a single pill against three of the major diseases of ageing was held out to women yesterday.

Doctors can barely contain their excitement about the drug, called raloxifene, which has initially been licensed for the prevention of bone fractures in women at risk of the bone-thinning disease osteoporosis. Early trials of the drug, launched in Britain yesterday, show that it also cuts the risk of breast cancer by 52 per cent and reduces cholesterol levels to give protection against heart disease.

Experts believe that if the drug lives up to its early promise, it could become a standard treatment offered to all women after hormone replacement therapy (HRT) has got them through the immediate symptoms of the menopause. Although many years of studies lie ahead before its value is confirmed, doctors are comparing its importance to the discovery of the anti-ulcer treatments such as Zantac, which became the biggest selling drugs of all time.

Raloxifene, whose brand name is Evista, is made by Eli Lilly and costs just over £20 for a month's supply. It is the first of the selective oestrogen receptor modulators (SERMs), refined versions of HRT with a selective action that work like oestrogen in some tissues but not in others.

It is a cousin of tamoxifen, the anti-breast cancer drug, and appears to combine the benefits of tamoxifen and HRT with none of their disadvantages - thickening of the lining of the womb associated with an increased risk of endometrial cancer in the case of tamoxifen, and a slight

BY JEREMY LAURANCE  
Health Editor

increase in breast cancer with long-term use of HRT.

Professor Ignac Fogelman, head of the department of nuclear medicine at Guy's Hospital, central London, and an expert on osteoporosis, said: "We have had many discussions about what type of woman [raloxifene] would be suitable for. We have to wait for the hard evidence. We already have the evidence in the case of spinal fractures reduced by 40 to 50 per cent and the cardiovascular evidence looks favourable. The breast cancer data is truly exciting... But it is early days."

Professor David Purdie, chairman of the British Menopause Society and head of the centre for metabolic bone disease at Hull Royal Infirmary, said: "I don't see it as a substitute for HRT. Many women who complain of symptoms such as hot flushes or night sweats will continue to need HRT."

"But for older women whose menopausal symptoms have eased - that might be the time to introduce it. It represents a major advance in protecting a woman's long-term health during her post-menopausal years."

An estimated 2 million women are affected by osteoporosis in the United Kingdom, with one-quarter of those in their sixties and half in their seventies having suffered one or more fractures. One in three hospital beds in orthopaedic departments is occupied by women with fractures caused by osteoporosis, and the disease is estimated to cost the National Health Service £1bn a year.



Helen Cummings, a British nurse, with husband Tyler Cummings whom she shot dead, and (right) pregnant in a Florida court on trial for murder



Charlie Varley

## Briton goes on trial for shooting husband on St Valentine's Day

IF ST VALENTINE'S is the day when the enamoured seal their love by exchanging tokens of romance, then perhaps it should also be the day when the spurned and the cheated have their say.

This, at least, will form part of the defence of Helen Cummings, a British woman aged 33 whose trial for the murder of her American husband began yesterday in Florida.

Mrs Cummings, a nurse and mother of a year-old boy, was arrested on 14 February after she rang the police, allegedly distraught and sobbing: "Oh my God, what have I done?"

Police say she had fired several rounds into her husband Tyler, three years her junior, with a .357 Magnum revolver

BY DARTUS SANAI

as he lay on their marital bed. Mrs Cummings, they said, had become enraged after finding pictures of her husband naked with another woman while looking through his car.

If she is found guilty of second-degree murder (equivalent to manslaughter in the UK), Mrs Cummings faces up to 25 years in prison.

She has not denied killing her husband, and her lawyer, Warner Olds, has painted a picture of a three-year marriage blighted by domestic violence, threats, fear and frustration in which finding the damning pictures was the last straw.

Mr Olds, a loquacious public defender, has remained positive

throughout the past seven months, and says he will prove Mrs Cummings was a victim of battered wives' syndrome and post-natal depression.

He calls her a "pussycat" and says she was provoked constantly through physical threats and his repeated infidelity. "What she saw would make any person's blood boil and the prosecution have acknowledged there was no premeditation."

The couple met at the Holy Cross Hospital in Fort Lauderdale, where they both worked as nurses, and married in 1995 after Tyler divorced his first wife. Her late husband's family said they would not seek the death penalty even if she were charged with first-degree murder, pointing out it would mean the couple's children would become orphans.

Although the trial formally began yesterday, the first few days will be filled by the process of jury selection, with a specialist "selector" sifting through prospective jurors with questions about domestic violence.

Mrs Cummings' brother, Dean Billington, has been in America to support her for most of the past few months; the Cummings' son, Terry, is staying with her parents in Lancashire. A few weeks after her husband's death, while in prison, she found out she was pregnant with their second child.

The nurse's arrest and imprisonment on remand initially resulted in a flurry of features in the British tabloid press; a Briton had shot an American in a state where things normally were the other way round.

In Florida, a state of sunshine, swamps and obvious inequality between the inbound tourists and the local underclasses, the killing was so routine that the state's main newspaper, the *Miami Herald*, has virtually ignored it.

A news editor on the paper said yesterday: "There's a lot of murders here, and some of them we hardly get to cover."

But the domestic coverage of this St Valentine's Day killing has shown considerable charity to a woman who, by her own

admission, shot her unarmed husband in the buttocks, chest, stomach and arm with a powerful handgun, killing him instantly.

One interview, in jail, portrayed her studying the Bible and worrying about who would look after her son; another, when she was released on bail, had her relaxing at her villa in North Lauderdale and worrying if she could ever get back her job at the hospital.

Perhaps not entirely irrelevant is that Mrs Cummings is white and British, and her husband was black and foreign, and the killing happened in a state where in June, a British tourist was raped by a black man in her hotel room while her husband was present.

## Dangerous paedophile, 65, is smuggled to freedom

A DANGEROUS paedophile, who threatened to return to a village where he carried out a campaign of sexual attacks on children for more than 30 years, was smuggled out of prison yesterday and taken to a secret address.

Rhys Hughes, 65, has agreed to move to accommodation out-

side the village after being warned he might face vigilante attacks if he went home.

Hughes, who served six years of a 10-year sentence for raping and assaulting children, had refused treatment in prison

since his 1992 conviction. The *Independent* revealed last month that his prospective return had struck fear into residents of his former home-village of Sonning Common, south Oxfordshire. One of his victims, who was four at the time of the attack, is now in her teens and still lives there.

Michael Biddulph, spokesman for Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire probation service said: "What we have been able to show him is that it is just not on to go back. We have got him to understand the situation in the village."

Because Hughes was sentenced before the Criminal Jus-

tice Act 1991 became law, he is free to come and go as he pleases. He will not be living in secure accommodation, although he will be under the supervision of officials and will have to keep police informed of his movements under the terms of the Sex Offenders Register. In case he later

changes his mind and returns to Sonning Common, Thames Valley police are keeping a series of security measures designed to protect children.

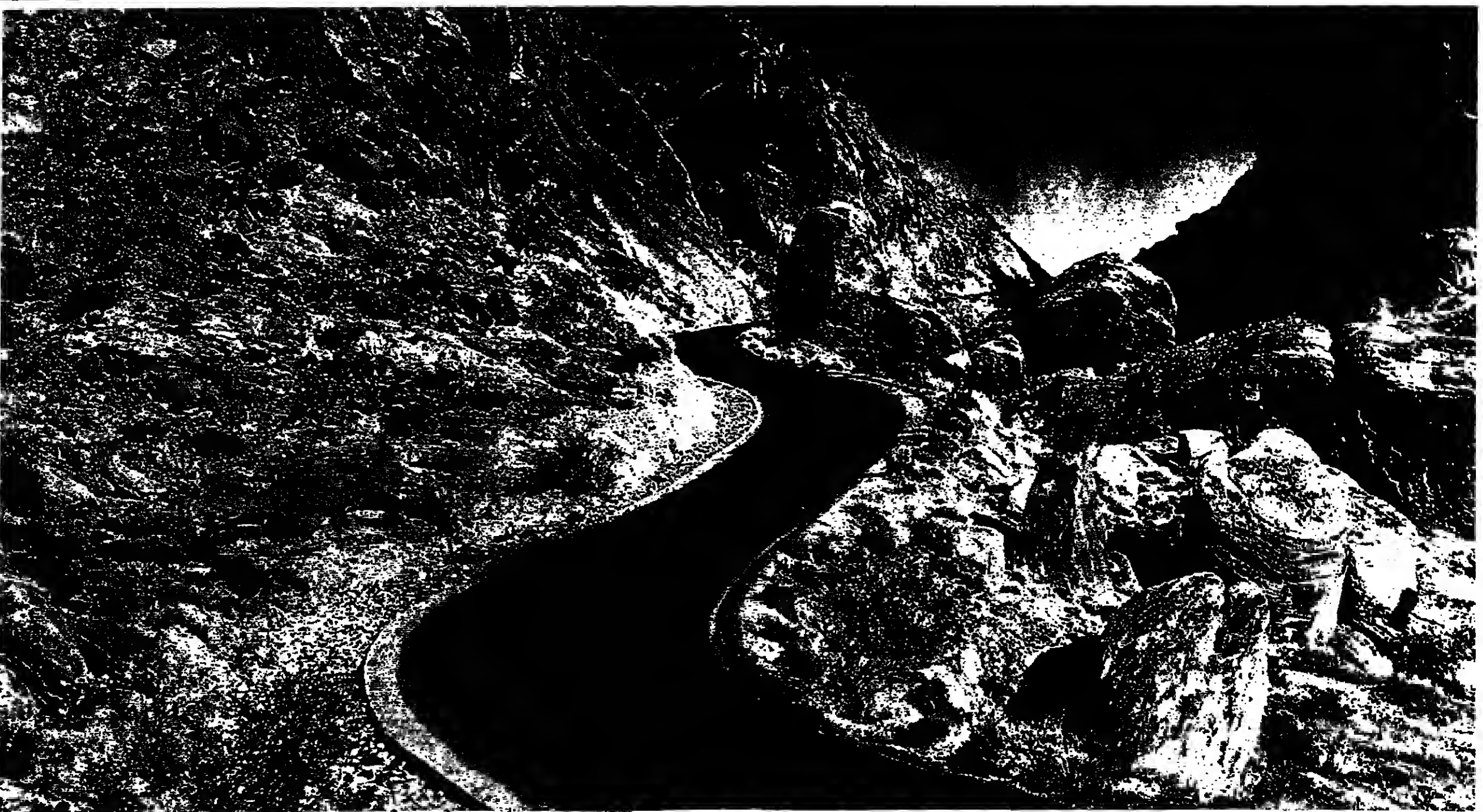
These include a network of Sonning Common-based safe houses, set up in for children to run to if they feel in danger. Police will also visit schools

to advise pupils of the dangers and the measures they should use to avoid harm.

Phillip Marples, head teacher of Sonning Common Primary School, said the atmosphere in the village was now calm. "Some people have spoken to their children about the Hughes threat and some

people did not," he said. "They felt that if he is not coming back there was no point in alarming their children about it."

Other freed paedophiles, including notorious child killers Robert Oliver and Sidney Cooke, have agreed to be locked up to protect them from mob fury.



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# Prescott rejects job-loss claims

JOHN PRESCOTT slapped down union leaders yesterday for blaming job losses on government policy. The Deputy Prime Minister acknowledged that "life is not easy" in some parts of manufacturing, but dismissed assertions that it was all caused by high interest rates.

He told TUC delegates that union officials should stop talking Britain into a recession. In particular, he took issue with comments by Ken Jackson, general secretary of the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union, who said the economy was "within hours" of diving into recession.

The Government was determined to keep to its strate-

BY BARRIE CLEMENT  
AND PAUL WAUGH

cabinet colleagues to use regional development agency taskforces to come to the rescue of firms such as the electronics group Philips, which has warned that 3,000 jobs are under threat at its plant in the United Kingdom.

However, an unrepentant Mr Jackson reiterated his warnings that the British economy was "staring recession in the face".

The engineering union leader said: "The economic hurricane reaching our shores from the Far East is being compounded by the strong pound and by high interest rates." Both employers and unions were united in their assessment that the UK was threatened with a severe economic downturn.

In his address to the conference Mr Prescott insisted the Government had made a "damn good start". He said that the recent "Fairness at Work" White Paper was a big advance for social justice, although it did not grant unions or employers everything they wanted.

His praise for the document is thought to be an attempt to ensure that Peter Mandelson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, will resist employers' demands that it should be watered down.



Prescott: 'Life is not easy'

Bill Morris, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, later told delegates that they should fight vigorously against moves by the CBI to keep a ceiling on unfair dismissal awards and block automatic recognition where a majority of workers belong to a union. He said: "Let me sound a note of warning. Be on your guard. There is a back door to Number 10 and there is a back door into the Department of Trade and Industry. The employers will use those back doors to get the White Paper watered down."

The 800 TUC delegates overwhelmingly passed a motion welcoming the White Paper with reservations and urging ministers to refuse to accept any amendments.

Mr Prescott said the Government was working to help manufacturers at the first sign of job losses. The Deputy Prime Minister had held talks with



Neville Lawrence chokes back tears as he thanks unions for supporting his fight for justice after his son's murder

John Voos

## Lawrence killers will never be brought to justice, says father

THE KILLERS of the murdered teenager Stephen Lawrence are not likely to be jailed for the crime, his father Neville told the conference.

In a deeply emotional speech that left many delegates in tears, Mr Lawrence thanked the TUC for its support throughout his family's campaign for justice in the face of indifference from police, the courts and even the government of the time.

Mr Lawrence, who broke down at the beginning of his address, confessed that he was not optimistic that the killers would be convicted for the murder of Stephen, aged 18, at a bus stop in south-east London in 1993.

"I don't think anybody is going to be prosecuted or serve time for the death of my son. That's the worst thing I have ever faced, to know that these people are going to get away

BY PAUL WAUGH  
Political Correspondent

with it in a country like this. It pains me," he said. Mr Lawrence was determined to ensure that his son's memory lived on in an educational trust set up recently in his name, a cause that gained further support when the TUC president, John Edmonds, presented him with a £1,000 cheque.

Mr Lawrence described his anger after the murder, and the way police treated his family, "like animals", and said local trade unionists were the first to support his fight for truth.

Mr Lawrence said that even with the strong help of the unions, it took the intervention of President Nelson Mandela of South Africa to get the campaign the attention it deserved.

He said that his family's campaign was a "worthwhile fight" for all Britain's children,

not just black children, and he would not be "fobbed off" by anyone. He said all parents "had to stop their breath" every time their child walked out the door. Even now, five years on, "I still think my son is coming through that door".

Stephen was stabbed by a gang of white youths in Eltham, but police said there was insufficient evidence to bring a prosecution. A private prosecution brought by his parents collapsed two years ago.

A new inquiry was conducted earlier this year to explore allegations that police racism contributed to delays in the murder investigation and failure to secure a prosecution. The inquiry, which was chaired by Sir William Macpherson and took 10,000 pages of evidence, with 88 witnesses, will reconvene for final legal submissions later this month.

In an earlier address to the

congress yesterday, Cheryl Carolus, high commissioner of South Africa, offered her government's continuing support for the Stephen Lawrence Family Campaign, but warned that governments of all nations faced an increasing tide of racism unless they tackled the poverty and lack of opportunity that often gave rise to it.

Ms Carolus said: "The murder of Stephen Lawrence cannot go unchallenged. We know that racism is alive and well in Britain, that racism and xenophobia is alive and well in the world today, including still in South Africa. We can stop it."

She praised the bravery of Mr Lawrence and his wife Doreen, and said it was clear that every time they had to speak about the case they felt the death of their son yet another time.

"I want to salute them for their bravery, which sometimes

is completely unrecognised." Ms Carolus also praised the clear direction given by the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, that such racist murders were totally unacceptable and that every effort would be made to find the perpetrators.

But the TUC's race relations committee chairman, Bob Purkiss, warned the conference that the trade union movement should not rest on its laurels.

"I am proud of what unions do. We have taken a lead and we have taken a stand. But I have to say to you - it's not enough. We still haven't got the black union officers to reflect the membership."

"Many black trade unionists are now saying that trade union action has reached a plateau. That unions are not willing to take the next steps and that trade unions are still male, stale and pale," he said.

## Hit-list threat to firms that ban unions

BY BARRIE CLEMENT  
Labour Editor

ONE OF Britain's biggest unions has drawn up a hit-list of companies with "bad bosses" where workers will be offered six months' free membership. Bill Morris, leader of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said directors at the selected firms would be offered "one last chance" to allow their employees to join his organisation before they would be "named and shamed".

Mr Morris said management at the companies concerned had engaged in tactics that frustrated the right of working people to join the union - something that was unlawful under existing legislation.

However, the initiative was also seeking to take advantage of a law on union recognition that would come into force next year. The companies on the list have either withdrawn union recognition or have refused to bargain with the T&G despite a large membership.

To boost the recruitment process, Mr Morris said his union would forgo subscriptions for six months. "We are determined that the full benefit of trade unionism goes to all who want to be members. We are determined that there will be no union-free workplace in Britain."

The recent "Fairness at Work" White Paper proposes awarding recognition to unions where the employees vote for it or where they can prove they have half the workforce in membership.

In anticipation of the law ADT, the security alarm company, has agreed to allow a ballot of its 1,800 technicians to discover whether they want the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union recognised.

Ken Jackson, leader of the union, said the AEEU had been recognised for more than 20 years at Thorn Security, one of the companies involved in a merger that formed ADT. "We are keen to work in a productive partnership with the company in the interests of our members and the company as a whole," Mr Jackson said.

The Manufacturing, Science, Finance union is also organising a recognition ballot among 400 employees at Machine Mart, a plant hire company with 24 depots around the country.

The moves follow a challenge from Ian McCartney, Trade minister, to stop "whingeing" about the White Paper and go out and recruit members.

### IN BRIEF

#### Energy supplier under attack

UNION ENERGY, the TUC's own energy supply company, was attacked by Unison, the Fire Brigade Union and the National Union of Journalists as an example of "collusion" with the privatised electricity company. However, the company, which works with Scottish Power to offer cut-price energy to 5 million union members, shrugged off the criticism and announced that it was marking deregulation of the domestic electricity market with a pledge to give customers the first single bill for gas and electricity.

#### GCHQ ends 15 years absence

CAROLINE CORNELL yesterday became the first government communication headquarters (GCHQ) delegate at the TUC conference for 15 years. She told delegates: "It has finally been recognised that staff at GCHQ have no conflict of loyalties. We can do a sensitive job on behalf of this country and still be active members of a national trade union. Individual employment rights... have now been restored." Unions were banned from the Cheltenham centre after the then Tory government alleged intelligence work had been disrupted by industrial action.

#### Today's business

■ Debates on pensions, health and safety, arts and sport.  
■ David Blunkett, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, gives speech on government's life-long learning initiative.  
■ Debate on national minimum wage, including address by Professor George Bain, chairman of the Low Pay Commission.  
■ Ian McCartney, Trade and Industry Minister, addresses fairness at work fringe meeting.  
■ Clare Short, Secretary of State for International Development, speaks at fringe meeting to celebrate 50th anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights.  
■ Eddie George gives first speech to the TUC by a governor of the Bank of England.

#### Health insurance

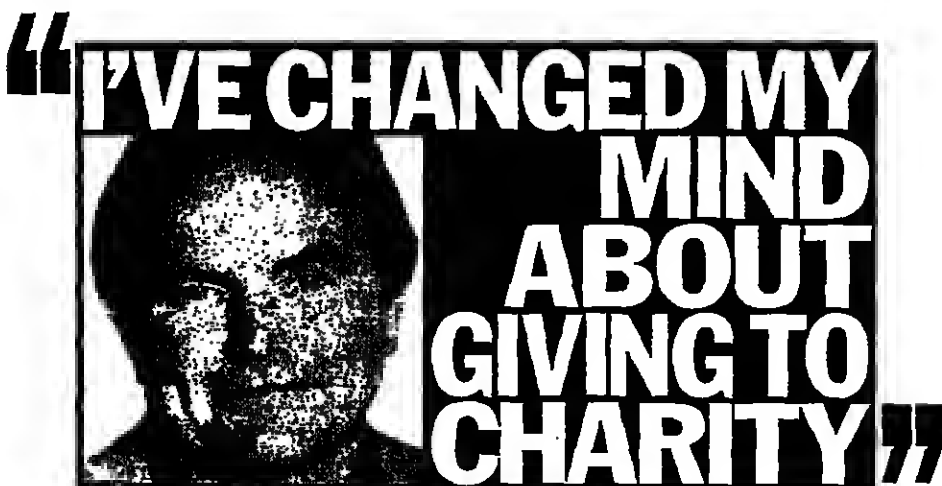
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	£10,000	11.0%	£217.39	£11,859.98
	£16,000	10.1%	£337.99	£20,259.88
BARCLAYS	£4,000	17.0%	£105.27	£4,972.20
	£10,000	15.0%	£236.09	£11,420.80
	£16,000	Not available		
LLOYDS	£4,000	16.0%	£96.88	£4,890.88
	£10,000	13.0%	£227.95	£11,277.90
	£16,000	12.0%	£344.75	£11,885.80
ABNEY NATIONAL	£4,000	16.0%	£95.37	£4,774.20
	£10,000	15.0%	£225.70	£11,542.80
	£16,000	Not available		

APRs correct at 1st September 1998. Source: Moneyfacts.

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RIVAL SUITORS FOR ENGLAND'S TOP FOOTBALL CLUBS

	SONY	CANAL+	The Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc.	GRANADA	TIME WARNER	CABLE & WIRELESS	UNITED news & media	CARLTON
COMPANY	Japanese Electronics giant	French satellite broadcaster	US advertising giant	Television and hotels group	US media giant	The UK's largest cable operator	Television and newspaper owner	Television, film libraries, video reproduction
POSSIBLE TARGET	Newcastle United	Manchester United, Leeds United	Manchester United	Manchester United, Liverpool, Leeds United	Manchester United, Tottenham Hotspur	Aston Villa	Tottenham Hotspur	Arsenal
OFFICIAL COMMENT	"We never comment on speculation or rumour"	Not available	"We are not interested in commenting"	"We can't comment on market rumour"	Not available	"We would not comment on these matters"	"We have been approached by a number of clubs. They are all in far too early a stage for comment."	"We have discussed with Arsenal Football Club Plc ways in which our two companies could work together."
WHAT'S THE GAIN?	One of the sponsors of the Premier League. Little else to commend a bid.	Controls rights to show Premier League matches overseas. Already owns Paris St Germain football team in France. Wants to stop Rupert Murdoch expanding into continental Europe.	Interpublic is expanding aggressively in sports promotion and sponsorship. Frank Lowe, a director of the group, is a Manchester United fan. However, it is hard to see what the company could do to improve Manchester United's marketing operation.	Looked at buying Man Utd several years ago and is shareholder - with BSkyB - in the club's cable TV channel. Needs programming to win subscribers for OnDigital, the digital television operator in which it has a 50 per cent stake.	Already uses its extensive sports interests, which include the Atlanta Braves, to push its cable television subsidiaries. Vice-chairman Ted Turner, who founded TV news channel CNN, is keen to prevent Rupert Murdoch from expanding his empire.	Could use its cable franchises, which include the Birmingham area, to screen pay-per-view matches. However, CWC is keen to upgrade its network and expand its customer base before it moves into supplying its own programming.	United News, which is run by Lord Hollick, is part of the consortium whose £80m bid for Spurs was rejected by Alan Sugar. It could screen games through SDN, the digital television operator in which United has a stake.	Carlton was beaten by BSkyB during the last bidding war for Premier League rights. Like Granada it needs programming to attract subscribers to OnDigital, its digital broadcasting joint venture

# Sugar rejects £80m offer for Spurs

TAKEOVER SPECULATION continued to swirl around British football clubs yesterday as Tottenham Hotspur confirmed that it had rejected an offer valuing it at about £80m.

The news came as Sheffield United, the First Division club, announced that it was in talks with a number of individuals who were interested in taking a stake in the club.

However, hopes of a bidding war over Manchester United began to fade after the mystery bidder who has asked a United States investment bank to investigate topping British Sky Broadcasting's £623.4m bid failed to break cover.

In an official statement to the Stock Exchange, Tottenham Hotspur said Alan Sugar, the chairman, had rejected an offer for his 40.88 per cent stake in the club from English National Investment Company, the financial group.

BY PETER THAL LARSEN

Mr Sugar had approached ENIC about buying his shareholding for 80p a share - putting a value of more than £80m on the club. However, when BSkyB tabled its bid for Manchester United last week he decided that the club was worth more and decided to reject the bid. Tottenham shares closed up 13p at 86p.

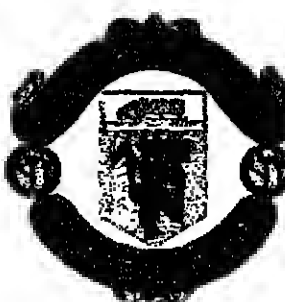
Sources at ENIC said the company had been "days away" from completing a successful bid. The company is now expected to wait until the takeover speculation has died down before making another attempt.

"We really want to get Tottenham back to where it belongs," the source said. "We're in the long-term investing game now."

ENIC has the support of United News & Media, owners



Arsenal, Leeds United, Manchester United and Tottenham Hotspur are four of the main clubs in play



of the Express newspaper titles, and the US media giant Time Warner. It already owns 25 per cent of Glasgow Rangers and has stakes in clubs including Slavia Prague and AEK Athens.

The news came on the day when the City was gripped by intense speculation about the identity of a mystery bidder who

is considering a counter-bid for Manchester United. Salomon Brothers, the US investment bank, confirmed over the weekend that it had been asked to speak to HSBC, Manchester United's financial advisers, about the possibility of making an offer.

Interpublic, the US advertising group, was one of the

names in the frame. Industry rumours suggested that Frank Lowe, a director of the group who also runs the Lowe Howard Spink agency, was keen to mount a bid. However, although the company refused to comment, insiders played down the rumours.

Other possible bidders include Time Warner, the US

media giant, and the television group Granada.

However, sources close to Manchester United played down the prospect of the bid materialising, pointing out that the new bidder was planning to fund the purchase with a large amount of debt. "This is absolutely not a business you load up with debt," an insider

said. Although Manchester United's board would be legally obliged to consider any serious bid that improved on BSkyB's, the club is expected to continue recommending the broadcaster's offer.

Sheffield United yesterday joined in the frenzy by confirming that its chairman and major shareholder, Mike McDonald, had started "preliminary discussions with a number of individuals" who were interested in investing in the club.

However, Sony, the electronics group, refused to comment on reports that it was lining up a £220m bid for Newcastle United.

John Bridgman, Director-General of Fair Trading, yesterday officially invited comments on BSkyB's offer for Manchester United. The OFT will take submissions on the bid until 28 September before deciding whether the bid

should be referred to Monopolies and Mergers Commission. The final decision rests with Peter Mandelson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, who will receive the OFT's advice by 12 October.

Meanwhile Roger Taylor, the former drummer with the rock group Queen, emerged as the mystery benefactor who has donated £10,000 to the Independent Manchester United Supporters' Association to help fund its campaign against the BSkyB bid.

A group of Manchester United shareholders, led by Michael Crick, the TV presenter, are also lobbying against the deal. Mr Crick said the group had approached Richard Branson of Virgin for advice on its campaign. "We wrote to Branson asking him to give advice on how a bid might be structured that would protect the interests of the fans," he said.

# Arch-critic Littlejohn aims to take control

RICHARD LITTLEJOHN, the controversial broadcaster and columnist, is heading a consortium of wealthy Tottenham Hotspur supporters that wants to buy a controlling interest in the club from the chairman, Alan Sugar.

The consortium has been in talks with Mr Sugar for more than six months and is understood to have told him to name his price for a 29.9 per cent stake

BY NICK HARRIS

in the north London football club. Mr Sugar was thought to have valued his stake at between £70m and £80m, but it is understood that in the light of Sky's £623m offer for Manchester United he may now be holding out for offers that would value his share at more than £100m.

Mr Sugar owns 40.88 per cent in total and if a deal with

Mr Littlejohn's consortium were to go through, the remainder of his stake would be passed to his son, Daniel.

The consortium wants to buy 29.9 per cent to give it a holding large enough to influence decision-making and block aggressive takeovers. It does not want a stake of 30 per cent or higher as it would be legally obliged to make an offer for the whole club, something

it neither wants nor can afford.

The consortium has yet to receive a response from Mr Sugar, but Mr Littlejohn said yesterday: "Our offer is still on the table."

Tottenham yesterday turned down a bid for the club from the leisure group, Enic, which had valued the club at 80p per share, or about £80m in total. Shares were trading at 85p each yesterday. Enic owns a host of Eu-

ropean clubs, has a stake in Glasgow Rangers and is known to want to extend its interests with a move into the Premiership.

Mr Littlejohn's main employer, ironically, is Rupert Murdoch, on whose Sky television the former's chat show is screened and in whose Sun newspaper he writes a column twice a week.

Mr Littlejohn was originally approached by a group of

wealthy Tottenham supporters to head a proposed purchase of Mr Sugar's shares. It now seems likely that Mr Sugar will ignore them and wait for a much improved offer for the club.

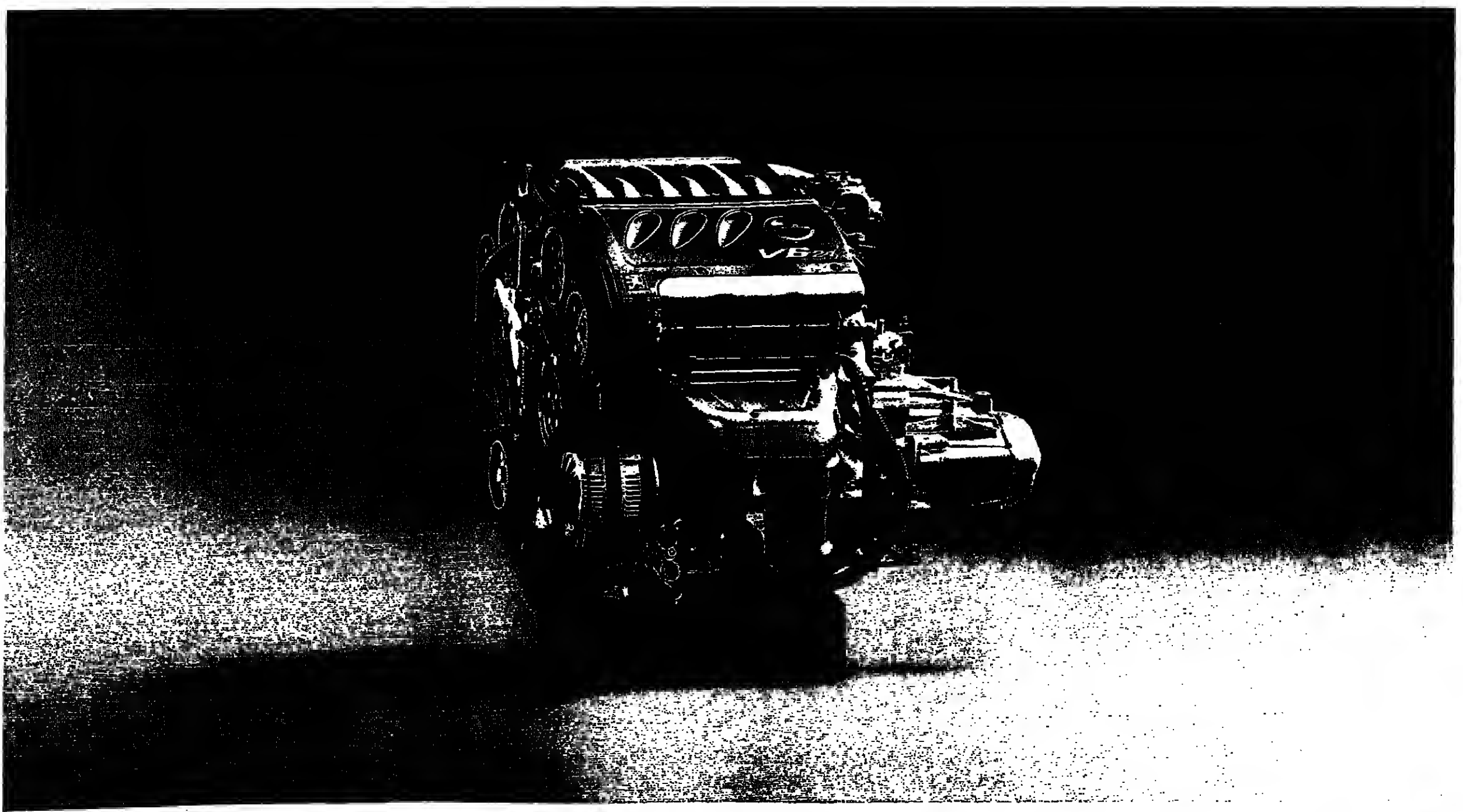
Tottenham supporters criticised Mr Sugar yesterday after he rejected the Enic bid. Mark Jacob, spokesman for the Tottenham Action Group, said: "Either Mr Sugar should come out once and for all and say the

club is for sale and at what price, or else he should tell us his plans for the future and how he intends to bring the Premiership title to White Hart Lane this season, as he promised two years ago.

"The supporters are fed up with constant games in the boardroom and all the uncertainty is clearly having an effect on the performance of the team."



Littlejohn: Club supporter



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# Surgeon 'covered up his mistakes'

A GYNAECOLOGIST was accused yesterday of removing a woman's ovaries without her permission weeks after telling her that the organs were healthy.

Consultant surgeon Rodney Ledward, 58, of Folkestone, Kent, allegedly performed a hysterectomy on his 48-year-old patient so incompetently that she later suffered extreme blood loss, resulting in the removal of two litres of blood from her stomach and abdomen.

At a hearing of the General

BY CATHAL MILMO

Medical Council, the medical profession's disciplinary body, it was claimed that Mr Ledward then wrote to his patient's GP to tell her that the procedure had been "uncomplicated", when her condition had in fact been approaching a state of clinical shock.

Mr Ledward, who has 33 years' medical experience, is accused of a catalogue of misdemeanours concerning the cases of 14 patients over seven

years at the William Harvey NHS Hospital at Ashford, Kent, and private hospitals in the county.

The hearing of the GMC's professional conduct committee was told that Mr Ledward also faces claims that he tried to profit from his NHS patients by persuading them to opt for private treatment at a private hospital where he was employed part-time.

Lawyers for the GMC said Mr Ledward had told his 48-year-old patient that her

ovaries were still ovulating and healthy five weeks before she underwent the hysterectomy at a private hospital in November 1992. But while the woman, who wishes to remain anonymous, was having surgery, Mr Ledward removed the organs without having earlier sought her consent.

After the operation, Mr Ledward left the hospital and the patient was removed to a post-operative care room where her condition rapidly deteriorated as she suffered massive blood

loss through inadequate stitching to the points where her womb had been removed.

James Badenoch, QC, for the GMC, told the hearing: "Her condition was approaching haemorrhagic shock. She was obviously losing blood and losing a lot of it."

While nurses monitored the woman's condition, senior doctors and administrative staff tried to contact Mr Ledward by leaving messages at his London and Folkestone homes. Eventually contact was made, and

Mr Ledward carried out a second operation at 11pm, some nine hours after the original procedure. During the second operation it was found that "in excess" of two litres of blood had leaked into the patient's stomach and abdomen.

The hearing was told that the gynaecologist, who also worked as an obstetrician, later wrote a letter to his patient's doctor in which he failed to make any mention of the post-operative complications.

Mr Badenoch said: "To de-

scribe the operation after this terrible post-operative course of events as 'uncomplicated' was at the very best a serious gloss on the truth, and at worst totally misleading. With regards to the removal of the ovaries, I need say no more than that it was obviously inexcusable to do that."

Mr Badenoch outlined four categories under which the surgeon's misdemeanours could be gathered: clinical and surgical incompetence, inappropriate delegation to junior

doctors, lack of involvement when his patients developed complications and dishonesty in search of personal gain. In two cases it is alleged that Mr Ledward sought to persuade patients that they could receive certain treatment only at a private hospital.

Mr Ledward denies failing to obtain his patient's consent for the removal of her ovaries. He also denies causing the bleeding and making misleading statements to her GP.

The hearing continues today.

## March of time defeats the Royal Tournament

THE ROYAL Tournament, a venerable institution for 113 years but declining in popularity for the past decade, is to be scrapped, it was announced yesterday. The military spectacle has come to be seen by the Government and service chiefs as old-fashioned, anachronistic and failing to reflect the role of the armed forces in the modern world.

Instead, the new millennium is expected to see a new-style, hi-tech show, using the latest stage technology, and sited away from its traditional venue at Earl's Court, west London. The Millennium Dome, in Greenwich, has not been ruled out as a possible venue.

The Ministry of Defence's decision received a mixed reaction from servicemen's organisations. The Royal British Legion said it was "disappointed that the tournament would not continue in its present form". But it added that, as an organisation it looked forward to the future, and awaited with "eager anticipation" to see how the show developed.

An official of the Burma Star Association of veterans said the development was not surprising. He added: "This appears to be the way of the world, I am afraid. There are changes being carried out for the sake of changes, or because some consultant or other asks for it. I thought this was something which cut across age barriers."

Some of the proceeds from the tournament go towards supporting service charities. The RAF Benevolent Fund said it was saddened by the decision

BY KIM SENGUPTA

to change the format, and General Mike Regan, controller of the Army Benevolent Fund, said he hoped the contribution to charities would continue in the future.

Previous attempts to modernise the tournament have failed and come under attack from a variety of quarters. London Weekend Television, which won the rights of the event from the BBC, tried to make it more appealing to younger spectators by introducing TV's *Gladiators* into the show, a move attacked as tacky. An appearance by a Japanese marching band was criticised by some war veterans.

Announcing his decision yesterday, George Robertson, Secretary of State for Defence, said: "The Royal Tournament has served us well for a great many years, but as we approach the millennium it is timely for us to take a fresh look at this traditional event."

"This is a new beginning, not an end, of the tournament and my aim is to make it more modern and relevant whilst retaining an element of pageantry." The Queen and the tournament organisers have been informed of the plans. A one-off show is expected to be staged in the year 2000, and the new-look production may include an open-air pageant.

The Grand Military Tournament and Assault at Arms, as it was first known, was started in 1880 by the Duke of Cambridge as a skill-at-arms event for the Army, with money raised for military charities.



Claude Picasso (left) with one of his father's pieces, 'Musketeer', going on display in London with other works including 'Owl and Head of a Faun' (right)

AFP/AP

## Picasso's feats of clay shine in light fantastic

AS FAR as Sophie Hicks, the arch-minimalist, is concerned, her design for the new Picasso ceramics show at the Royal Academy is verging on the fussy.

"This is more than I have ever done before for an exhibition," she said, amazed at herself.

In truth, the look she has given the high-ceilinged rooms at the gallery in Piccadilly, central London, is almost entirely pared down. The colourful pots,

BY VANESSA THORPE

bowls and figures that Pablo Picasso fashioned or painted, or both, while in Vallauris, southern France, in the late Forties and early Fifties are displayed on long slabs of concrete. The slabs are at table height and deliberately have the appearance of stone.

Ms Hicks intends them to echo the shape and the solidity of the kind of ancient tables

and platforms used in religious worship. "At first, we wanted the pots to appear to just float in the rooms in some way," she said, "but then we realised the galleries were too big for that. The work would just be lost."

Ms Hicks, the former fashion editor of *Vogue* magazine, who became an architect and then worked with the clothes designer Paul Smith on his impossibly trendy Westbourne House emporium in west Lon-

don, has been working on the Picasso exhibition since February.

This is not her first collaboration with the academy, however: she was also the architect on "Sensation", last year's phenomenally successful exhibition of Charles Saatchi's collection of contemporary work by young British artists.

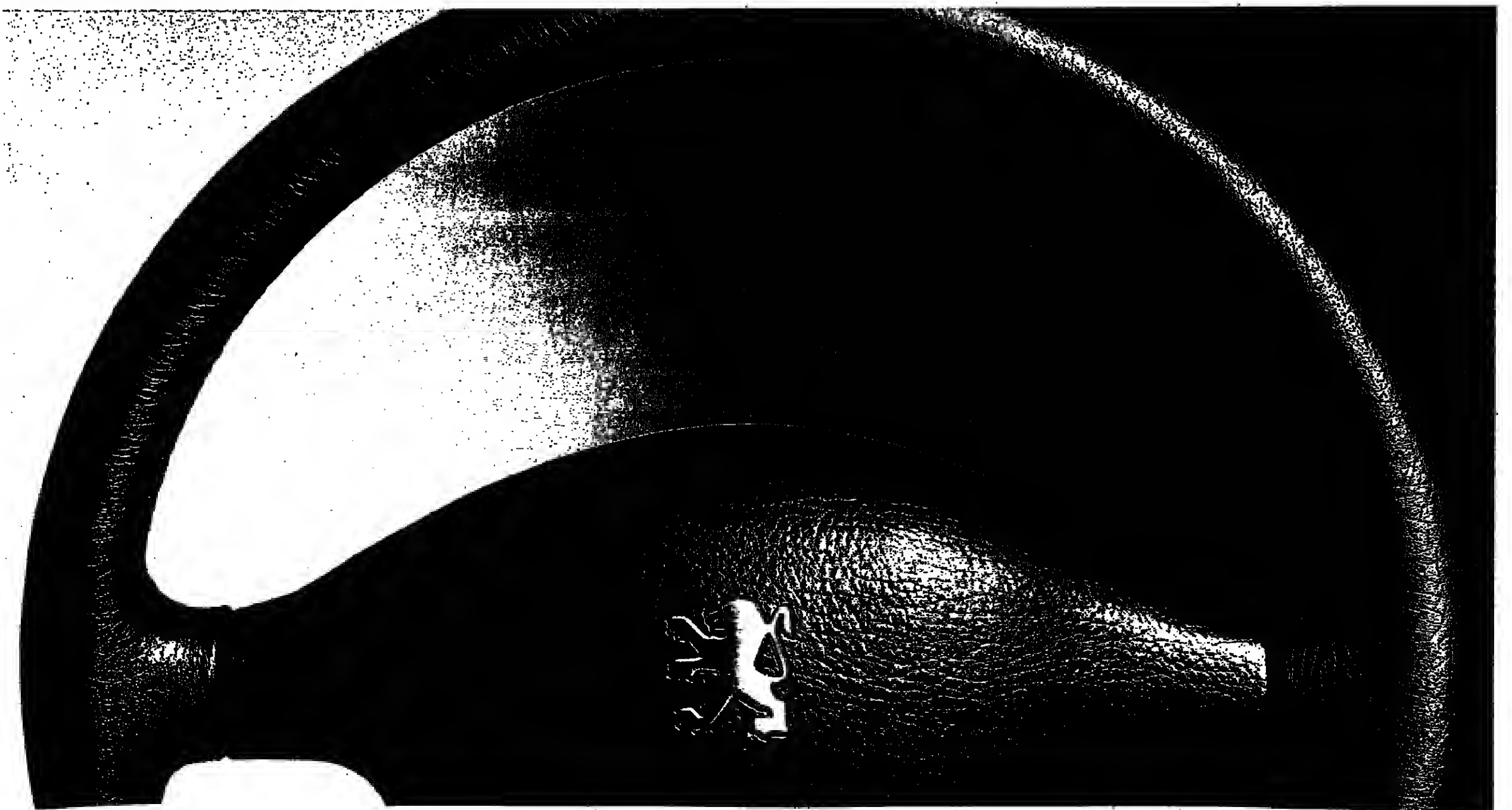
"My work for the Picasso is not at all the same as with 'Sensation', where I tried to get the maximum contrast with the

decor of this building as possible, even to the extent of removing modern signs and fittings," she recalled. "With that exhibition, I felt some of the modern works actually looked better here than they had in the modern galleries."

With Picasso's ceramics her approach was to allow the work to look very real and touchable. "I wanted a very flat light, a neon light and I don't mind the fittings showing at all."

"It is very different to working on a shop, where you are trying to make things look precious. These pots are precious and so you want to make their surroundings as basic as possible." After this exhibition, Ms Hicks plans to leave the fine-art world for a while and work on the construction of a new hotel in Argentina.

The exhibition *Picasso, Painter and Sculptor in Clay* runs from 17 September to 16 December.



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# Cabinet split on homes buy-back

A PLAN to buy back council houses could bring the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Deputy Prime Minister into direct conflict.

The recent comprehensive spending review completed by Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, has set councils the task of raising £2.75bn a year through asset sales.

But proposals from the Department of Environment Transport and the Regions (DETR), headed by the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, are designed to encourage councils to repurchase assets.

BY ANDREW MULLINS

placing homes purchased under the scheme. The net flow of housing into the private sector is running at 40,000 properties a year, and the new plans are intended to reduce this number by cutting the maximum discount available to tenants by as much as half.

In addition, a "buy-back incentive" will allow councils to use council house receipts, which have been frozen for years, to cover a quarter of the cost of repurchasing former municipal property.

The buy-back incentives will apply to any former council property, whether or not it was bought from the council by its present owner.

The maximum discount available to council tenants is £50,000 but the DETR believes this amount is unjustifiable and intends to reduce it substantially, in line with local house prices.

In the South-east the proposed maximum will be £35,000; in the North-east it will be as low as £22,000.

Last year 40,000 homes were sold under right-to-buy for an average price of about £31,000, and the average discount was 50 per cent.

Bournemouth Borough Council spent £250,000 last year repurchasing its former stock and has been active in the area since 1994.

A spokeswoman says there is still a "stigma" attached to some council property, making it hard to resell.

Steve Thompson, head of housing in Bournemouth, said yesterday that a range of problems, from the housing boom to high service charges, caused many former council tenants to fall behind with mortgage payments.

Once a property is repurchased the occupants are rehoused and a family from the waiting list is moved in. This prevents people from drifting in and out of home ownership at the expense of the state.

Sarah Ffraid, who bought her council flat in 1983, said: "I am really hopeful this proposal is going to bail us out of this mess."



Gordon Brown: 'Councils must sell their assets'

The plan will challenge the Right to Buy scheme whose popularity played a key role in the electoral success of Margaret Thatcher in 1979.

A spokesman for the DETR said: "Because we want to encourage local authorities to look at the assets they can sell doesn't mean that there won't be some areas where it's sensible for the reverse to happen." The Treasury refused to comment.

The DETR green paper is being considered by councils across England and is likely to be enacted during the winter. It will make council houses less attractive to buy and ex-council stock easier to repurchase.

According to DETR estimates, the Right to Buy scheme costs £400m a year in lost rents plus the cost of re-



Bishop Pat Buckley ordains Sister Frances Meigh as her daughter Melanie looks on

Alan Lewis

# Catholic woman in Ireland is ordained

THERE WAS a quiet revolution in religious life yesterday when Ireland's first Catholic woman priest was ordained at a ceremony in rural Co Louth.

A more unlikely revolution would be hard to find. After becoming "Mother Frances", Frances Meigh, a 67-year-old British-born divorced mother with three adult children, returned to a hermit's cottage nearby in the village of Omagh, where her life will centre on prayer and painting icons.

Mother Frances, a former Anglican whose marriage was first annulled by the church, took vows in 1984 to become a nun, though there was a dispute with clergy in Middlesbrough, Cleveland, over the circumstances.

Now she will emerge for a few hours daily to St Andrew's, the former Protestant church in Omagh reopened in April by Bishop Pat Buckley, Ireland's rebel Catholic liberal cleric.

Bishop Buckley maintains the Meigh ordination is "perfectly in accord with Catholic doctrine" based on scripture and tradition, citing St Paul's recognition of Deaconess Phoebe at Caesarea and the wider acceptance of women deacons in the early Christian church.

A message of support for the first woman priest arrived from Tony Benn, the Labour MP. A number of Catholic clergy supporting admission of women to the priesthood attended the ceremony. Mainstream Irish

BY ALAN MURDOCH  
in Dublin

bishops presented a face of regal indifference, though many were believed to be seething. Their silence may also signal a lack of unanimity in their opposition.

Official church spokesmen are privately strongly critical of Bishop Buckley, strongly disapproving of his welcome to divorcees and mixed religion couples seeking the formal church wedding ceremonies denied them under Vatican canon law. His appointment in June as a bishop by a fellow dissident, Bishop Michael Cox, was pronounced "valid but unlawful" by the official church, which excommunicated him. He insists he remains a Catholic, though outside formal church structures.

But after the clerical sex abuse scandals and the embarrassment over the Bishop of Galway, Eamonn Casey, who had a son in a secret affair with an American woman, the bishops have remained unusually quiet over the latest breach of discipline.

The impact of this rebellion is complicated by the historically fragmented nature of the faith with its diverse spread of priestly teaching and nursing orders pledging allegiance to Rome, although they have sharply varying degrees of international conformity to compulsory celibacy, and now, to an exclusively male priesthood.

# Ruth Ellis lawyers demand secret papers

BY ROGER DORSON

LAWYERS TRYING to overturn the murder conviction of Ruth Ellis have asked the Government for access to secret papers about the case that have a 30-year closure order on them.

The legal team acting for the sister of Ruth Ellis, the last woman to be hanged in Britain, believe the papers relate to a meeting that her solicitor had with Scotland Yard in 1973 - 18 years after she was hanged.

One theory is that the solicitor, John Bickford, had known all along about the involvement of another man in the murder and that in 1973, when he was a dying man, he had gone to tell the police what had really happened.

"The closed file we have

found at the Public Record Office has a 30-year closure order on it, dating from 1973. She was executed in 1955, and as far as we are aware, nothing else happened in 1973 that could have prompted such a secrecy order," said one of the lawyers, Lynne de Maid, a member of the Cardiff-based legal team that successfully won a posthumous pardon for Mahmood Mattan, the executed Cardiff seaman.

Ruth Ellis was executed for the murder of her lover, David Blakey, whom she shot. The trial excited worldwide interest and has since generated more than 30 books.

Ms de Maid said: "At the time

she was going out with Blakey, she also had another boyfriend, Desmond Cousens.

"Ruth left home at 15, was courted by a Canadian airman and became pregnant by him.

"She met George Ellis who was very violent, and then Blakey who was physically very violent and who punched her in the stomach, causing a miscarriage three weeks before the shooting.

"We know that Ruth fired the gun, but we think it was a joint enterprise; that Cousens borrowed a gun, cleaned it, gave Ruth target practice, plied her with Pernod and then drove her to the scene of the crime.

"We think Bickford knew that, but listened to Cousens perjurying himself in court when



Ruth Ellis: Sacked lawyer the day before she hanged

he should have done something about it. Just why he did that, we do not know yet.

"In 1973 Bickford went to Scotland Yard, where we be-

lieve he confessed that he didn't represent her properly. Ruth did not expect to hang and we think she was encouraged in that belief by her solicitor.

"It was only on the day before she hanged, when she sacked him, that she realised what was happening," Ms de Maid said.

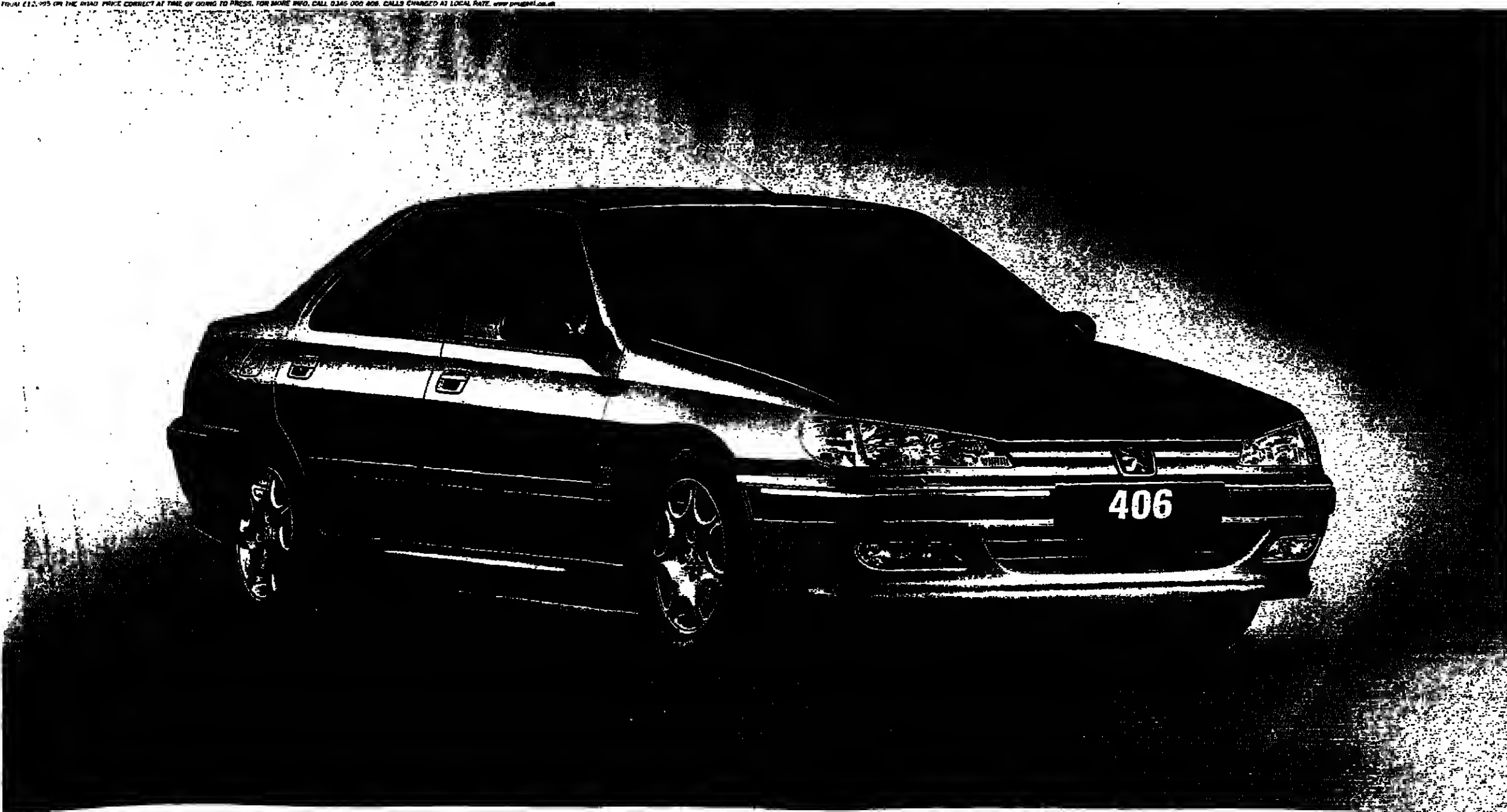
"We have made repeated requests for access to the closed file and we have now written to ministers seeking their help."

The team expects to submit an application for an appeal with the Criminal Cases Review Commission by the end of this month, which will include the details of the attack by Blakey. "We feel very strongly that they will refer it, and we think

the case will be heard next year at the Court of Appeal. She was not given a fair hearing," Ms de Maid said.

"When you read the papers on this case and that of Mattan, you realise the appalling standards of justice that operated in those days. Facts about her miscarriage were not even brought out at the trial. It is very sad to think of this young woman with a two-year-old and a 10-year-old going to her death."

The team is also putting together a file on her psychological condition after her miscarriage, including depression and jealousy, both of which might now be mitigating factors, reducing the conviction from murder to manslaughter.



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# Albanian rebels fire on premier

THE ALBANIAN capital, Tirana, descended into chaos yesterday as tanks lumbered through the streets and the government declared that it was facing an attempted coup by opposition supporters loyal to the former president, Sali Berisha.

Armoured vehicles seized by opposition supporters fired repeatedly into the building that houses the office of Fatos Nano, the country's Socialist Party Prime Minister. Mr Nano's spokesman said: "The Prime Minister is safe but not in his office for reasons that are clear."

Gunmen declaring their loyalty to Mr Berisha's Democratic Party were seen breaking into parliament, while elsewhere in the city, opposition supporters seized control of the state television building. Mr Berisha used the opportunity to broadcast a repeat of his demands for Mr Nano and his government to resign.

Groups of armed men gathered on the streets while cars

BY PAUL WOOD  
Balkans Correspondent

with automatic rifles jutting from the windows drove up and down.

It was the second day of violence in the capital. Armed rioting by Democratic Party supporters began at the weekend after one of their leaders, Azem Hajdari, was shot dead by men dressed in police uniforms.

On Sunday, Mr Berisha, claimed that the government had organised Mr Hajdari's murder and demanded that Mr Nano resign within 24 hours.

At least 10,000 opposition supporters gathered for Mr Hajdari's funeral yesterday. Mr Berisha called for calm, but repeated his accusations. Trouble began after the funeral procession apparently attempted to take the coffin into government headquarters.

Eyewitnesses report that there was then an intense exchange of fire. The Socialist gov-



Opposition supporters protesting on a tank seized from the government in Martyrs of the Nation, Tirana's main street, yesterday Arben Celi

ernment put tanks and armoured personnel carriers on the streets, but opposition supporters commandeered several of the vehicles and it was not clear last night which side was really in control of the capital.

As the crisis deepened, the President, Rexhep Mejdani, held emergency meetings with parliamentary deputies, seemingly with a view to forming a new coalition government. If that happens, it will be a repeat

of last year when an armed insurrection saw the Democratic Party ejected from power. There were fears yesterday of full-scale civil war.

The Socialists have denied any involvement in Mr Hajdari's

death. To most independent observers it seems unlikely that the Socialists would risk provoking violence by ordering the assassination of an opponent.

The government's supporters mutter that Mr Berisha himself

was to blame, or at the very least will take advantage of the killing. "He is determined to resume office at any price," said one long-standing Tirana political insider and critic of Mr Berisha, "even if that means civil war."

## Schröder deflated by poll setback

BY IMRE KARACS  
in Bonn

THERE WAS a new spring in Helmut Kohl's step, and an air of despondency hung over his opponents yesterday as politicians in Bonn digested the implications of Sunday night's conservative triumph in Bavaria.

Final results issued yesterday showed that, rather than gaining up to 4 percentage points as predicted, the Social Democrats had lost votes to the Christian Social Union in the elections to the Bavarian assembly. With the help of Gerhard Schröder's misguided campaigning, their result was 1 per cent lower than four years ago, when the national party was in a shambles.

Mr Schröder, who was looking forward to moving into the chancellery in two weeks' time, could not conceal his disappointment. "I don't need to underline that the Bavarian elections did not fulfil our hopes," he said.

Chancellor Kohl was visibly relieved. "We are full of fighting spirit and willing to fight for every vote," he said. "The general election has not been decided, whatever the polls say."

The polls are saying: three point advantage for the Social Democrats. But it has become a noticeable trend that in all but one regional elections - in Mr Schröder's Lower Saxony earlier this year - the pollsters overestimated the SPD's final score by 4 or 5 per cent.

The left can take comfort from the confirmation of the Greens as the third biggest party in the country, replacing Mr Kohl's allies, the Free Democrats. They vanished without trace in the Bavarian poll. If the Free Democrats fail to clear the 5-per-cent hurdle to the Bundestag on 27 September, Mr Kohl's days as Chancellor are over, no matter how well his own party does.

## French rediscover the taste for home-grown soap

FOR THE first time in 30 years, French television has its own home-grown serial to match the gripping banalities of *Santa Barbara* or *EastEnders*.

The inaugural 26-minute episode of *Cap des Pins*, an everyday story of Breton millionaires, was shown on the publicly owned France 2 channel last night. It tells the story of the Chantreuil family - a cruel and rapacious father; a

BY JOHN LICHFIELD  
in Paris

down-trodden, ineffective mother; and grown-up children with divided loyalties.

If that sounds strangely and depressingly familiar, it is not surprising. The last French-made television series to in any way resemble a soap opera ended in the late 1960s. The scriptwriters and executives

for *Cap des Pins* were dispatched to the United States, Britain, Germany and other soap-making countries to study the secrets of the lost art.

They came to the conclusion that a soap episode consists of three simple, slow-moving scenes, with an absolute maximum of five. A typical story-line over two weeks might be as follows: Things are not going well between Romeo and Juliet;

Romeo's father's factory closes down; Tristan and Isolde discuss the problems of Romeo and Juliet; things are not going well between Tristan and Isolde...

The French researchers concluded that soaps reflect the countries in which they are made. In British soaps, almost all the action, or inaction, takes place in pubs. In American soaps, everyone has just been

to the hairdresser's - even the down-and-outs.

They are determined to give *Cap des Pins* a French flavour. The first indications were that the characters will be more interestingly dressed than those in American soaps; and that they will eat more often and better than the characters in *Coronation Street* and *EastEnders*.

One of the scriptwriters of

*Cap des Pins*, Cathy Pierre, said the series will be "very French and not entirely a soap".

Simone Harari, the producer (who studied with the producer of *Santa Barbara*), says soaps are the perfect expression of modernity. "They are not challenging to watch, but they are very challenging to make."

The rediscovery of soaps in France is partly a response to

criticism of the high proportion of foreign drama on French television. French-made light entertainment programmes consist mostly of quiz shows, variants of *It's A Knock-out* and some detective series.

There is no French sit-com, but that vacuum will be filled shortly. The cable network, Canal Plus, is making three sit-coms based on American models, and two air next month.

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# Taliban seize 'idolatrous' Buddha icons

FEARS ARE growing for the fate of two giant statues of Buddha in central Afghanistan after the region in which they stand was seized at the weekend by the country's fundamentalist Islamic militia.

The two 200ft-high statues dominate the horizon above the trenches and bunkers being dug in Bamian, which the Taliban overran last weekend. Recognised by archaeologists as one of the greatest construction works of antiquity, the Buddhas of Bamian were hewn from rough sandstone about 1,800 years ago.

At least one Taliban commander has pledged to destroy them, saying such representations were idolatrous and offensive to Islam.

He has been overruled by more moderate Taliban officials but the murder of nine Iranian diplomats by Taliban troops last month shows the Taliban leaders often have difficulty controlling their more extreme elements.

Until the weekend, Bamian was held by the opposition Hezb-i-Wahdat faction. With the veteran commander Ahmed Shah Masood's stronghold in the north-east, it was one of the last areas outside the Taliban's control. With its fall on Sunday the opposition forces are in almost total disarray.

The fate of the statues may be affected by the Taliban need

BY JASON BURKE  
in Islamabad

for international recognition. Many realise that the destruction of the Buddhas would play badly on the global stage.

Presently only three nations - Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates - have recognised the Taliban as the legitimate government of Afghanistan. The country's seat at the United Nations is still held by Burhuddin Rabbani, the ousted president.

Last year the UN, prompted by leaders of Buddhist countries, called on the Taliban to respect the Bamian monuments. They were assured by senior officials in Kandahar - the southern Afghan city that is the headquarters of the Taliban - that the Koran obliged them to respect the holy places of other faiths.

A strong faction within the Taliban, however, believes they are now conducting a Jihad (Holy War). "One effect of the recent American missile strikes has been to radicalise the Taliban. They feel that Islam is under threat and that attacks against any target deemed to be non-Islamic is justified," said Kamaal Khan, a Pakistani political analyst.

Iran has deployed 200,000 troops on the western frontier of Afghanistan, ostensibly for military exercises. The Taliban

have reinforced their defences, distributed weapons to local villagers, moved about 25,000 troops to the border and deployed 30 mid-range rockets and 16 Stinger missiles.

The recent crisis, brought to a head by the killing of the Iranian diplomats, has its roots in the complex system of alliances. Iran, dominated by Shia Muslim clerics, has supported the Shia Hezb-i-Wahdat faction against the Sunni Muslim Taliban. The leader of the Hezb-i-Wahdat fled Bamian on Sunday to Iran.

Iran is demanding that the Taliban apologise for the murder of the diplomats and send their killers to Iran for trial. So far the Taliban have refused. Neither have the Taliban responded to requests for the release of a further 30 Iranians held prisoner in Kandahar.

There have been reports that retreating Hezb-i-Wahdat fighters massacred dozens of Taliban prisoners in Bamian. Taliban sources claim that an Iranian general is training more than 12,000 Afghan refugees in four camps just inside the border.

Never the less, the Taliban believe that the Iranians are merely sabre-rattling. "They know that to attack would unify the whole of Afghanistan against them and risk war in the whole region," said one senior Taliban.



Children of persecuted Hazara before one Buddha Robert Tuttle and Robert Bain

## George Wallace of Alabama dies

BY RUPERT CORNWELL

GEORGE WALLACE, the former Southern segregationist who made two runs for the White House before being paralysed by a would-be assassin's bullet in 1972 and renouncing his racist views, died on Sunday at the age of 79.

Wallace, who served four terms as governor of Alabama between 1963 and 1987 in addition to his bids for the presidency, died in hospital in the state capital, Montgomery, after a long illness. Flags at the state capitol and governor's mansion were at half-mast yesterday as tributes flowed in from Southern politicians.

The former president Jimmy Carter issued a statement that praised Wallace for changing his attitude to civil rights. "Alabama and the American South have lost one of their favourite sons," Mr Carter said. "His career helped define and reflect the political life of

our region." Wallace, a powerful orator and instinctive populist, won almost 10 million votes and carried five states in the 1968 election. But his apogee came in early 1972, as he moved to the front of the Democratic field for the nomination that year before being shot while campaigning at a shopping centre in Maryland.

Though he survived, he was paralysed from the waist down and spent the rest of his life in a wheelchair, frequently in great pain.

His political conversion began in the mid 1970s. By the time he embarked on his last political campaign for Alabama governor in 1982, he acknowledged to a black audience that "segregation was a mistake" and that "the old South is gone".

Obituary, Review, page 6

### IN BRIEF

#### Murdoch accused of blocking film

RUPERT MURDOCH cancelled plans for a controversial television movie because the subject was a friend of his, the New York Times has reported. The film, for Fox Television, was to have examined the career of Clarence Thomas, the black conservative US Supreme Court Justice accused of sexual harassment by Anita Hill. The film was to be based on a book, *Strange Justice*, by two Wall Street Journal reporters.

#### 'Cuban spies' arrested in Miami

TEN PEOPLE have been arrested in Miami on charges of spying for Cuba. Leaders of Cuban exile organisations said it was related to an incident in 1996 when two aircraft flown by the exile group Brothers to the Rescue were shot down by Cuban MiGs, killing four people.

#### Bosnian poll hailed as triumph

BOSNIA'S ELECTIONS were hailed as the most successful since Bosnia's war ended three years ago. Turn-out in the two days of voting was 78 per cent of the 2.7 million registered voters. The election pitted hard-line ethnic parties that oppose the 1995 Dayton peace agreement's goal of a non-ethnic unitary state against more moderate ethnic leaders who support the peace treaty.

#### Budapest in EU expansion talks

HUNGARIAN DISCUSSIONS on European Union membership are expected to begin in November, the Prime Minister, Viktor Orban, said in Vienna. Earlier this year, the former Communist countries of Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovenia and Estonia, along with Cyprus, were selected to take part in the latest round of EU expansion talks.

## Indonesian military chief warns of collapse

THE HEAD of Indonesia's armed forces said unrest may lead to the fall of the government and even the country's collapse, as demonstrations, riots and looting raged in several cities. "The demands of these groups... can shake this legitimate government and break up the nation's unity, which could lead to disintegration," said General Wiranto, who is also Defence Minister. He was speaking to parliament after a fortnight of growing discontent with the government of President B.J. Habibie, who replaced President Suharto after similar unrest in May. In Medan, in Sumatra,

shops owned by Chinese families were stoned after a demonstration lured out of control. Bus and taxi drivers and students protested at the provincial government office over the price of spares, driven up by the collapse of the rupiah last year and the subsequent economic crisis. Dozens of people were arrested after

looting. There were lesser disturbances in the Sumatran city of Jambi as well as on the island of Sulawesi and in Semarang, in Central Java. The Minister for Food, A.M. Saefuddin, was quoted in a newspaper yesterday as admitting that 17 million of the country's 202 million people

do not have enough to eat. "The urban poor are especially vulnerable. In many rural areas, people are more used to hardship and can seek alternative ways to cope. Those who demonstrate or loot are usually the urban poor." The IMF, which has bailed out the economy, recently

announced measures to help Indonesia to relieve the crisis, including tax breaks on rice, to reduce food shortages. Anti-Chinese riots, which have broken out across the country this year, often start with rumours that a particular shopkeeper has been hoarding rice to sell it later at inflated prices.

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## FLOODS DEVASTATE ASIA.

This year, monsoon rains have wrought havoc throughout much of Asia. Two thirds of Bangladesh is under water. Thousands of villages have been washed away in Nepal and India. 14 million have been left homeless in China.

Crops have been ruined. The risk of typhoid and cholera is growing daily. Millions are suffering.

The International Red Cross is already providing tarpaulins, food, clean drinking water and basic medical supplies, but it's not enough. Hundreds of thousands of families still urgently need your help.

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Lepers at Wangdu clinic, near Peking, which is also a refuge for cured patients classified as 'aged and vulnerable'

Teresa Poole

## China rebuffs UN on rights

"I AM NOT a comfortable presence for the Chinese authorities and that is understandable, because they have many problems and many violations," said Mary Robinson, the first United Nations Human Rights Commissioner to visit China.

Yesterday, in a 90-minute meeting, she heard President Jiang Zemin repeat China's argument that lifting people out of poverty was the country's priority - and responded by telling him that protecting civil liberties was just as important.

During her 10-day trip, which ends today, Mrs Robinson has sought to open a process of engagement with China, a country where human-rights abuses are still commonplace but where the past two decades has also seen improvements in personal freedoms and living standards.

By TERESA POOLE  
in Peking

She "emphasised the importance of human rights, not just for peace and security, but also for economic development," said her spokesman, Jose Diaz. She did not raise individual cases with Mr Jiang but had pressed Chinese and Tibetan officials for information on political prisoners.

Details of the visit, which she has described as "difficult", will emerge today, when Mrs Robinson finally talks to the press.

During her two-day visit to Tibet, which was the most sensitive leg of the trip, she refused to visit a prison, after letting it be known that she feared reprisals against prisoners.

On a visit to a monastery, Mrs Robinson asked to meet a

veteran dissident monk, Yulo Dawa Tsering, who was arrested after speaking to a UN human-rights team in 1994.

Her request was not granted by the Chinese. She also asked officials in Tibet of the whereabouts of nine-year-old Gendun Choekyi Nyimi, who was named by the Dalai Lama in 1995 as the new Panchen Lama.

She received no answer. "It's not ever a case of getting instant answers. I regard this as the start of a continuing process," she said.

China's former president Yang Shangkun died yesterday aged 92, state media reported. A ranking general, Yang had played a crucial role in the suppression of the pro-democracy demonstrations that swept China in the spring of 1989.

Obituary, Review, page 6

## Cure gives little joy to victims of leprosy

FOR THE past decade the furthest 75-year-old Hou Jingyao has ventured from his room is the one mile to the village market. For a long time before that, he went nowhere; the gates of the grey-brick walled compound in Wangdu County were locked. Even after the padlocks were thrown away, the outside world seemed an inhospitable place. Looking at his destroyed fingers, his missing toes, his weakened leg and the sores on his skin, he swore: "This damned disease! I don't know how I got it. Since I got leprosy I have had very few moments of happiness."

Mr Hou started his stay at Wangdu's leprosy clinic in 1960. Until the mid-1980s China's policy was to lock lepers in rural hospitals or isolate them in "leprosy villages", releasing them only if several years' treatment cured them. Liu Shuangzhan, director at Wangdu clinic, said: "We had various gates: one for staff, one for patients who were received, another for when the patient died and one gate for when they were cured."

Those who were cured were often so disfigured they chose to remain rather than be ostracised in their villages. From the mid-1980s, when multi-drug therapy (MDT) offered a quick, permanent cure, China abandoned its policy of isolating lepers.

But the likes of Wangdu were much-needed refuges from the difficulties of life outside. Older, disfigured residents such as Mr Hou stayed on. Wangdu is only three hours by a new highway from Peking but for many of the 38 residents the only experience of a fast-modernising China has been via television. Mr Hou arrived in 1960, was released in 1974, but returned in 1980. "I just listen to the radio and watch television," he said. "My relatives visit twice a year."

This month Peking hosted the 15th International Leprosy Conference, attended by 1,000 delegates working to stamp out leprosy worldwide by 2000. The World Health Organisation estimates there are 1 million cases globally, two-thirds in South-East Asia. It is not very contagious but is a stubborn disease: 500,000 cases are diagnosed each year. Unless treated promptly, nerve injury leads to loss of feeling in the hands and feet, rendering them vulnerable to injury and infection. It also attacks the eyes and causes muscle weakness and paralysis.

In the first half of this century, lepers in China were still being buried alive, floated out to sea to die or abandoned on islands. Since 1949 China has had great success combating the disease, albeit at the expense of individual liberty. The rate has fallen from 2.4 per 10,000 in 1958 to 0.033 per

By TERESA POOLE  
in Wangdu County

10,000 last year. After 1987 the situation was transformed by MDT drugs, which can cure leprosy in two years. The number of cases under active treatment fell to 4,045 last year and about 2,000 new cases are diagnosed annually.

For some in China, multi-drug therapy came too late. Yin Dakui, vice-minister for health, told the conference that China had 120,000 disabled cured lepers, of whom about 20,000 were "aged and vulnerable". He Daxun, at the China Leprosy Association, said there were 20 to 30 "leprosy villages" and more than 40 hospitals housing cured patients.

Wangdu, which opened in 1954, had 230 patients at its peak in 1962. It is a walled compound, surrounded by cornfields. Inside, buildings are divided into sparsely furnished, one-room dwellings and the gardens are planted with vegetables and grain.

Of the 38 residents, 25 are elderly, cured patients. Liu Huirong, 66, said: "I came here in 1957. It was sad to be isolated, not a pleasant feeling. I was cured in 1966 and went home. But people in my county were very afraid of me. When they saw me they took a roundabout way." She returned in 1978 after the death of her husband and two of their children in an earthquake. "Life is better here," she said. Her neighbour, seeing a rare visitor, turned away, to hide her absent hands and half-missing face.

The younger generation is luckier. Huang Liying, 34, is Wangdu's youngest patient. The disease was caught before any disability occurred, and next year she should be able to return to her village. Many new victims can also be treated as out-patients or at home.

Conditions are basic and most of the 25 cured but disabled old residents are in ragged clothes. Seeing 66-year-old Xu Diangang's room and unwashed bedclothes, it is easy to understand how infections set in. But, knowing life outside would be worse, the patients are grateful.

"If there is a clinic, we can live several extra years. If there is no clinic, maybe we would just die," Mr Xu said.

The aged residents fear the clinic might close as the number of patients falls. This is partly due to a misunderstanding. "We have seen the slogan which says leprosy will be eradicated by 2000. We are afraid... there will be no more clinics. And we will have no place to go," Mr Hou said, as staff tried to reassure him it will be years before China can close its leprosy clinics.

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South African farmers are armed to the teeth after more than 500 murders since 1994

Sipa

# White farmers in fear of the killers

CECIL FRAUENSTEIN'S last words were in Xhosa. "Ndenzeni kuni embi ndizeleleni... What harm have I done you?" cried the 66-year-old farmer as five black teenagers finished him off with knives.

His son Craig, 30, muses over his father's final sentence, heard by a farm labourer who saw the brutal killing. "He was a poor man," he says, gazing at the small plot that is part junkyard, part farm where his father was murdered last weekend. "He struggled all his life to give us an education. What is hardest for me is the way he died."

The attack on Cecil Fraustein was so vicious his nose was almost severed. "I cleaned up the blood," Craig says. He identified the body to shield his mother and twin sisters from the grim necessity. Mr Fraustein was one of three white farmers murdered

BY MARY BRAID  
in Eastern Cape

in the Eastern Cape in the past two weeks. George Wylie, 76, was shot in bed at Grahamstown. When his son Peter, who found his body, tried to talk about the murder on national radio two days later, he broke down, howling like a wounded animal.

The day before George Wylie was killed, Jacobus "Bokkie" Human, 46, who farmed at nearby Paterson, was gunned down by four men posing as cattle buyers.

More than 500 white farmers have been murdered in 2,400 attacks on farms since South Africa's first democratic elections in 1994. Almost without exception their attackers were black. Since January, more than 100 farmers and their relatives have been killed. Farmers in Kwa Zulu Natal are

threatening to withhold their taxes, others threaten to take the law into their own hands. A worried President Mandela will host a summit on the killings early next month.

The farmers say the attacks are politically inspired. Two government-sponsored reports claimed the attacks were principally criminal. Those conclusions seem dubious, given that farmers have evicted thousands of tenants in advance of new legislation giving farm workers tenure rights.

Dr Piet Gous, president of the Free State Agricultural Union and a right-wing Freedom Front MP, scoffs at the notion that crime alone lies behind the killings. "Why then, do they break in when no one is home and wait up to eight hours to kill the farmer?" Others point to the military precision of some attacks.

Craig Fraustein finds it hard to believe that there is no racial element when five black youths beat, kick and stab an old white man to death.

The white farmers accuse President Mandela of doing too little. More radical black parties, who say nothing has changed for blacks in post-apartheid South Africa, accuse him of pandering to whites.

Why has Mr Mandela never called a farm labourers' summit, Nkosi Molala asked in a Soweto newspaper, when they are routinely tied to trees by their employers or used as shooting practice? He said white farmers were "digging their own graves".

Derek Hanekom, the ANC land affairs minister, suggested that "poor relations" between farmers and workers were factors in the crisis. Such talk, says Mr Gous, inflames the "illiterates in squatter camps". Relations between white farmer and blacks employees are fine, he insists.

That is not the way many blacks tell it. "I was raised on a farm," says Lungile, 30. "The farmers paid us poorly and children had to leave school and work if a parent died. Otherwise families would be kicked off the land." In one respect he and Mr Gous agree. "I am sure the attacks are 80 per cent revenge. There is so much bad feeling here.

There are scores to settle."

At Mr Fraustein's funeral, the mood of fear was palpable. The murders had frayed the nerves of the hundreds of local farmers who gathered for the ceremony. One leader said his daughter hated black men since a violent robbery at their home, though a black labourer was murdered trying to protect her.

The attacks are hardening attitudes even among white liberals. "I used to take the side of blacks in arguments with friends," said Craig Fraustein. "I believed apartheid was unjust... but then this." A gun now hangs on his hip. "It is the gun my father should have worn."

A virtual state of emergency has gripped rural areas. Private security firms - including the mercenary outfit Executive Outcomes - are patrolling farms in the Free State, day and night.

"We don't have many problems here," says Mr Gous with a laugh. "We have shot most of them. We hunted some down last week who attacked a woman on a farm. Two were shot to death."

One young Grahamstown farm activist said: "Electric fences are going up everywhere and we're swamped with private security officers. Now its shooting practice instead of tennis. No one sits in the pub after dark and if you go to an evening meeting you take your wife and children."

He says his black workers are as terrified of attacks as he is and believes right-wing racists must shoulder some blame for the crisis. "But I am a 34-year-old democrat," he adds. "Why must I be shot for something I did not do?"

The politicians fear for the economy of South Africa's successful farming sector. Farmers are talking of selling up and emigrating. Cecil Fraustein's wife will never return to their farm.

Eight miles away Dorte Hennings' husband, Hugo, 80, died after a farm attack in 1994. Eighteen months later, she survived a knife attack by an employee. Mr Fraustein's death was the last straw. "They just have something against white people," she says. Her farm is up for sale.

## THE DINOSAURS LEFT IT.



## A beautiful job centre, shame about the work

### STREET LIFE

SAMOTECHNY LANE, MOSCOW

SERGEI ZHURAVLYOV, a qualified aircraft engineer, was tired of going into work sitting around doing nothing and not getting paid. Bravely, he declared himself redundant and signed on last week at the job centre.

"We are here to give hope," said Anatoly Figida, head of the job centre in Moscow's Taganka district. "We do have jobs to offer."

Housed in a newly renovated 19th-century mansion, with computers in every office, it was a far cry from the grubby office with card indexes I visited five years ago.

I had gone to the job centre to find a fallen Russian yuppie. In the latest economic crisis, banks have been laying off staff, but hurt bankers crawl away to lick their wounds and then network for new jobs rather than sign on.

"So far, the effects of the crisis have not fed through to us," Mr Figida said. "You won't find any bosses here, certainly not Viktor Chernomyrdin," he joked in reference to the Prime Minister who had just lost his job.

Indeed, of the 800 registered at this job centre, 556 were women. Only 41 were in their twenties or younger. Most job-seekers were middle-aged.

In Mayor Yuri Luzhkov's Moscow, the unemployed are initially not much worse off than those still in work. They get their legal entitlement to 75 per cent of their former income in the first three months and are offered opportunities for retraining. Most Moscow enterprises still pay regularly into a state fund for the unemployed.

On paper, unemployment

in Moscow stands at 0.7 per cent, but in fact thousands of people are only going through the motions of work.

"Lately, there's been nothing to do at work," said Galina Silina, 47. She has spent most of her working life in a "Beriozka" (Little Birch Tree) shop, one of the stores that in Soviet times sold goods for hard currency to foreigners.

Counsellor Valentina Makarova keyed Galina's details into her computer. "Job in a supermarket near Kashirskaya Metro; no, they want somebody under 35."

"Experience used to be everything," Galina said. "Now it counts for nothing."

"Job selling ice-cream from a kiosk," offered Valentina.

"No way," said Galina. "It'd be cold in winter. The Beriozka was nice. We used to get a good class of people in there."

Sergei Zhuravlyov, the aircraft engineer, knew that at 49 his opportunities were limited. Valentina looked down lists of general clerical jobs. They were all for younger people and computer skills were essential.

"Look," Sergei said. "I really just need to earn money. I'll do anything. I can't go on with my wife keeping the family."

At that, Valentina printed out for him the details of a job loading and unloading at a market, at a salary of 800 roubles (about £36). "Is that a job for a family man with higher education?" she said after he had left. "If I'm to be honest, all we are doing here is offering the illusion of hope."

HELEN WOMACK

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# BUSINESS

## Clinton's call for united action fuels rate-cut hope

### BRIEFING

#### Utility Cable shares suspended

SHARES IN Utility Cable, the troubled group which digs up roads to install TV cables, were suspended yesterday at the company's request. In a statement, Utility Cable said it had asked the Stock Exchange to suspend trading "pending clarification of its financial position". The company declined to comment further.

The shares have slumped from a high of 37p five years ago to 2.25p yesterday as Utility Cable was hit by sharp reductions in installation expenditure by cable TV operators. In January the company announced a boardroom shake-up which saw the departures of the chief operating officer, Alan Baskeyfield, and the commercial director, Sean Maguire.

#### A record summer for BAA



BAA's seven UK airports handled 11.5 million passengers in August, making it a record summer with the highest number of passengers ever recorded over a two-month period, it was announced yesterday.

The surge marks a 6.5 per cent increase on the same month last year and a 7.6 per cent increase in BAA's passenger traffic for the financial year to date,

compared with the previous year's figures. BAA, whose chief executive is John Egan (left), also revealed a 6.3 per cent increase in passenger traffic for the 12 months to 31 August this year.

The fastest growth among the key markets in August was on European scheduled routes, where traffic increased by 9.2 per cent, and North Atlantic services, where the rise was 8.3 per cent.

#### Littlechild hails electricity move

THE ELECTRICITY regulator, Professor Stephen Littlechild, yesterday hailed the opening of the domestic market to competition as an instant success, saying that more than a million households had signed up to switch supplier. He was speaking at the launch of competition began with 750,000 customers, initially in Norwich, Chester, Motherwell and Hull, free to shop around.

Savings for those who switch are expected to average around £20 on the typical household bill of £254. Professor Littlechild said the experiment would be justified even if no more than 5 per cent of the market changed supplier.

HOPE OF interest rate cuts in the world's leading economies were raised last night when President Clinton joined the G7 group of industrial nations in calling for a co-ordinated response to the global financial crisis.

Speaking at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York, Mr Clinton said that the priority was now to boost world growth rather than curb inflation, a statement which was interpreted as a signal that joint action to cut rates was now possible.

His call for action, which coincided with a similar communique from G7 finance ministers and central bank governors, helped propel stock

BY LEA PATERSON  
in London  
AND ANDREW MARSHALL  
in Washington

markets forward. The FTSE 100 closed up 150 points at 5268.6 in London, and the Dow was up 200 points, breaking the 8,000 barrier at lunchtime in New York.

The President called for senior finance officials to meet within 30 days to discuss the global economy. Mr Clinton said the G7 group of industrialised nations must be ready to act swiftly, and with force, if currency crisis strikes in Latin America.

He said: "For most of the last 30 years, the United States

and the rest of the world has been preoccupied by inflation. "Clearly the balance of risks has now shifted - with a full quarter of the world's population living in countries with declining economic growth. Therefore, I believe the industrial world's chief priority today plainly is to spur growth."

In a separate statement last night, G7 finance ministers and central bank governors said they would support "a co-operative international approach to support those countries that had been adversely affected by recent developments in global markets and which are implementing strong economic programmes."

They expressed concern about the withdrawal of capital from the emerging markets and re-affirmed their commitment to the IMF.

In echoes of Mr Clinton's speech, the G7 finance ministers and central bank governors also said the "balance of risks in the world economy had shifted."

They added they would consider measures to alleviate the effects of the crisis on the poorest elements segments of society, but stressed that "unilateral action" on debt by countries hit by the crisis could hurt the world economy.

Mr Gordon Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who flies to Japan today to meet

finance officials, said that there is both a concern about what is happening and a preparedness to take action where it is necessary.

However he warned against taking "the precipitate action that was taken at other times which led to serious results in the late 1980s."

The Chancellor was referring to the co-ordinated interest cut that took place following the market crash of 1987, and which was subsequently blamed for stoking up inflationary pressures in the global economy.

In a separate statement, the IMF said it was ready to help Latin America if necessary, and in his speech Mr

Clinton called on Congress to approve the \$18bn he has requested to replenish the IMF's depleted resources.

Meanwhile, better-than-expected manufacturing price data in the UK could help pave the way for early rate cuts, economists said.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) said that producer input prices fell by 0.9 per cent in August, while producer output prices were down 0.2 per cent on the month.

The markets had been expecting a 0.7 per cent drop in input prices and static output prices.

Outlook, page 19

## Vaux calls time on 350 pubs and two breweries

BY NIGEL COPE  
Associate City Editor

VAUX, THE Sunderland-based leisure group, became the latest pub operator to call time on its brewing operations yesterday when it put its two breweries in Sunderland and Sheffield up for sale.

The decision follows a strategic review by new chief executive Martin Grant, who joined the group from Allied Domecq three months ago, and severs the company's links with north-east brewing, which date back to 1837. The company also wants to sell its wholesale operations and 350 tenanted pubs to concentrate on its Swallow hotels division and other leisure interests.

The decision could threaten more than 600 jobs at the breweries if they cannot be sold. Around 500 staff work at the Sunderland site, which is best known for its Samson bitter and Lambtons "smoothbrow". More than 100 are employed at the Wards brewery in Sheffield.

However, the company said yesterday that interest has already been expressed in the breweries by Vaux director Frank Nicholson, the younger brother of the non-executive chairman Paul Nicholson.



Sir Paul Nicholson of Vaux Breweries leading a team of horses on one of the company's distinctive horse-drawn drays, still used to deliver beer in Sunderland.

Analysts said the breweries and pubs could fetch a combined £100m.

Most said the real value would lie in the pubs, which could be worth up to £60m. The value of the breweries would be heavily dependent on any contractual agreement with Vaux's remaining pub estate.

The Campaign for Real Ale criticised the company's decision saying it could lead to a reduction in the choice of regional beers. However, it welcomed the news that ownership may stay within the Vaux family.

Vaux, which sponsors Sunderland football club, said it would "continue to be a major player in the north east".

Vaux is keeping its 320 best tenanted pubs as well as its 180 managed outlets. These include its Barcentro cafe bar outlets and its Bramwell community pubs.

The 48 Swallow hotels have shown strong growth, the company said yesterday, with revenue per room ahead by 11 per cent on a like for like basis at £40.43. Current trading across the group is broadly in line with expectations, it added.

News of the sell-off follows a wave of consolidation in the industry, which has seen a spate of brewery closures and mergers. Scottish & Newcastle recently announced the loss of 300 jobs following the closure of headquarters in Northampton, the West Midlands and Cheshire. Whitbread, Morland and Carlsberg have also either closed plants or put them up for sale. Vaux shares closed 11.5p higher at 279p.

## Regent spends to stop any more mistakes

BY NIGEL COPE

REGENT INNS, the pub operator which issued a calamitous profits warning in June, said yesterday that it has doubled head office expenditure and beefed up its accounting controls to ensure that previous errors with sales figures are not repeated. The company disclosed in June that "inconsistencies and inaccuracies" in the way sales figures had been calculated would cause a £1.7m profits shortfall.

Yesterday the company said it had increased the expenditure on its head office functions from 4 per cent of group sales to 8 per cent. Its accounts department now boasts 27 staff, including a new finance director, a new financial controller and four management accountants instead of the previous two.

The company admitted that its central controls had not kept up with the rapid expansion of company. It is considering merging all its offices under one roof to avoid the potential effects of communications problems.

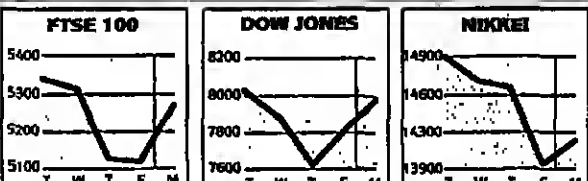
David Franks, Regent's managing director, said: "We have acknowledged the questions over our finances and we have taken all the necessary steps to ensure credibility is restored."

Mr Franks said the board had become aware in mid-April that there might be a problem with the way like-for-like sales were being calculated. However, at that time it was felt that the problem was not serious enough to warrant an announcement to the Stock Exchange. It was only following work by the new finance director and the auditors that it became clear that there would be a material impact on profits.

Regent shares fell by 44 per cent in June when the company said the problems with its sales figures, together with delayed openings, would cause the group to miss profit forecasts. Yesterday Regent reported pre-tax profits up 6 per cent to £13.3m in line with forecasts reduced from earlier expectations of £18m.

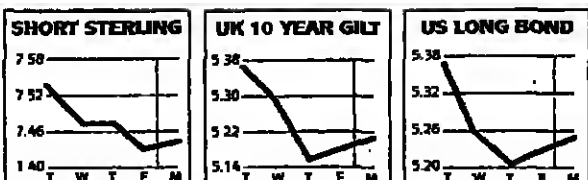
Like-for-like sales rose by 1.5 per cent over the year. The shares closed 5p higher at 161p.

### STOCK MARKETS



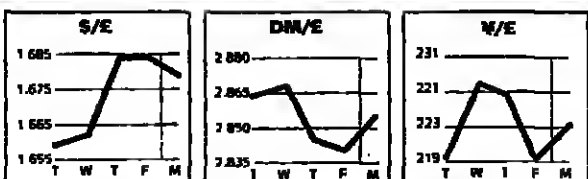
Index	Close	Change	52 wk high	52 wk low	Yield (%)
FTSE 100	5268.60	150.00	5183.70	4382.80	3.70
FTSE 250	4736.70	39.40	4884.90	4428.30	4.35
FTSE 350	2518.10	62.70	2599.10	2141.80	3.80
FTSE All Share	2441.56	57.93	2486.92	2106.59	3.83
FTSE SmallCap	2094.00	6.00	2193.80	2044.80	3.96
FTSE Pledging	1169.90	3.70	1217.10	1140.20	4.34
FTSE AIM	890.30	1.90	921.00	862.80	1.44
FTSE EBLK 100	893.89	26.82	936.00	697.12	1.86
Dow Jones	7996.07	201.08	8367.88	6971.32	1.86
Nikkei	14227.37	310.32	14639.76	13564.74	1.02
Hank Sense	7661.88	83.38	11032.65	6544.79	5.34
Dax	4896.49	159.34	5217.83	3467.24	3.28

### INTEREST RATES



Index	3 month	Yr chg	1 Year	Yr chg	10 year	Yr chg	Long bond	Yr chg
UK	7.44	0.13	7.13	-0.41	5.21	-1.69	4.92	-1.91
US	5.50	-0.22	5.25	-0.84	4.99	-1.39	5.25	-1.32
Japan	0.43	-0.15	0.48	-0.16	0.99	-1.24	1.50	-1.37
Germany	3.48	0.20	3.54	-0.06	4.03	-1.62	4.97	-1.34

### CURRENCIES



Index	at open	Change	Yr Ago
Dollar	1.6783	-0.53c	1.6038
0-Mark	2.8550	+1.24p	2.8282
Yen	223.46	+42.84	182.87
£ Index	102.70	+0.00	100.10
S Index	108.60	+0.00	105.50

### OTHER INDICATORS

Index	Chg	Yr Ago
Brent Oil (\$)	12.64	0.24
Gold (\$)	289.65	-1.10
Silver (\$)	4.96	-0.09
GDP	115.40	2.60
RPI	163.00	3.50
Base Rates	7.50	7.00

### TOURIST RATES

Country	Rate	Country	Rate
Australia (\$)	2.7023	Mexican (nuevo peso)	15.46
Austria (schillings)	19.43	Netherlands (guilders)	3.1132
Belgium (francs)	57.07	New Zealand (\$)	3.0974
Canada (\$)	2.4687	Norway (krone)	12.34
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8132	Portugal (escudos)	280.57
Denmark (krone)	10.59	Saudi Arabia (rials)	6.0873
Finland (markka)	8.4650	Singapore (\$)	2.7654
France (francs)	9.2703	Spain (pesetas)	234.30
Germany (marks)	2.7720	South Africa (rands)	9.8714
Greece (drachma)	474.93	Sweden (krone)	12.92
Hong Kong (\$)	12.55	Switzerland (francs)	2.2885
Ireland (pounds)	1.1007	Thailand (bahts)	61.65
India (rupees)	65.23	Turkey (liras)	440454
Israel (shekels)	5.9349	USA (\$)	1.6321
Italy (lira)	2741		
Japan (yen)	216.76		
Malaysia (ringgits)	6.0877		
Malta (lira)	0.5160		

Rates for information purposes only  
SOURCE: THOMAS COOK

## Oil exploration companies merge

THE MUCH-HERALDED consolidation among Britain's smaller oil exploration companies began yesterday with the £800m merger of British Borneo and Hardy Oil and Gas.

The merged company to be called British Borneo Oil and Gas, will be the third biggest player in the sector after Enterprise Oil and Lasso with commercial reserves of 240m barrels and a portfolio taking in the North Sea, Gulf of Mexico, Australia and Pakistan.

The deal is taking the form of an all-paper offer with British Borneo, Britain's oldest oil company, issuing six new shares for every seven shares in Hardy Oil and Gas.

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

At last night's closing prices, the offer values the combined group at £790m and Hardy Oil and Gas at £294m. British Borneo shareholders will emerge with 63 per cent of the enlarged group and Hardy Oil and Gas shareholders with 37 per cent.

John Wainwright, chief executive of Hardy Oil and Gas, is quitting with a pay-off expected to be in the region of £800,000.

The chairman and chief executive posts will be filled by Sir Bob Reid and Alan Gaynor, both from British Borneo, while the finance director will be

Hardy Oil and Gas' John van der Weide.

The two companies denied that they had been forced together by the low oil price. Mr Gaynor maintained that the alliance was "an ideal fit in terms of strategy, assets and cash flow".

But the market greeted the deal by marking down British Borneo's shares by 13 per cent and analysts did not rule out the possibility of a cash bid for Hardy from one of the oil majors. Hardy shares closed up 15p at 180.5p, compared with the 225p that shares were issued at in July's £28m rights issue.



Sir Bob Reid: chairman of the merged company

with Robert Fleming, said: "It is good for the sector that some consolidation is taking place because there are a lot of small

niche players and not much investor enthusiasm for the stocks."

But there were fears that the deal would be dilutive for British Borneo while it would be difficult to gauge whether the merger would pay off for some years, he added.

However, Mr Gaynor said the merger would combine British Borneo's strong cash flow from the Gulf of Mexico with Hardy's longer-term production profile while balancing up the portfolio between oil and gas. Combined output is forecast to rise from 27,000 barrels a day now to more than 100,000 barrels from 2000 onwards.

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## AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

### LONDON

FOOTSE SOARED 150 points to 5,268.6, inspired by New York's strong display and another round of take over activity. But it was very much a blue chip advance. Supporting shares limped behind with, for example, the small cap index up only 6 to 2,094. Many shares in the forefront of the summer retreat rebounded. Reuters, the information group, hit by worries that a worldwide share slump would lower demand for its screens, jumped 42p to 479p with Warburg Dillon Read saying buy. Derek Pain, page 23

### NEW YORK

STOCKS SURGED for a second day, led by drug companies and banks, amid optimism that President Bill Clinton would not be forced out of office. The Dow Jones Industrial Average stood at 7991.92, up 195 points by 4.30pm BST as Citicorp and other financial companies gained after falling as much as 50 per cent in the past eight weeks. The dollar reversed last week's slide, rising against most major currencies. Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr's report, released Friday, contained few surprises.

### TOKYO

STOCKS ROSE on hopes that the government's offer to tighten restrictions on any public funds given to banks will help break the political stalemate on the banking bills that are seen as a key to pulling Japan out of its worst recession in five decades. The benchmark Nikkei 225 climbed 233 points to 14,227.37. The opposition parties, which object to the use of taxpayers' money, responded coolly to the latest proposals, as the government refused to drop plans to use public funds to bail out the Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan.

### PARIS

THE BENCHMARK CAC-40 index closed up 136.47 points, or 3.8 per cent, at 3,714.81 as Wall Street rose in early trading. Technical buying also supported the index as investors picked up stocks that had fallen to attractive levels. Banks led the gainers after heavy losses last week, but low volumes showed that investors have not returned to the market conclusively. Worries about Russia diminished after Russia's prime minister pledged to continue reforms but anxiety about Latin America continued to mount.

### FRANKFURT

SHARE PRICES closed sharply higher in late Xetra trade after a volatile day's trading, with the Xetra DAX ending at 4,883.51, up 138.86. The victory of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Bavarian allies in weekend state polls buoyed sentiment, as it was seen to improve Chancellor Kohl's chances in elections later this month. However, dealers said Deutsche Telekom suffered on the perception that a re-elected coalition would step up the pace of telecoms' liberalisation.

2000 2001 2002



# US may be alone in cutting rates

IT'S ALL VERY WELL calling for coordinated cuts in interest rates round the world, as Bill Clinton by demanding urgent action from the 37 appeared to yesterday, but what in practice are the chances of this happening?

The first point to be made is that these days it is not the politicians who make the choices, but independent central bankers, and they tend to be much more fixated on domestic economic concerns than global ones, rightly in many respects.

In Japan, short term interest rates are already so low they cannot realistically fall any further. In the UK, inflation is still rising, and although the balance of economic risk may have moved over the last couple of months from an inflationary to a recessionary one, a cut in UK rates would make very little difference on its own to the international economy.

As for Euroland, the pressures are all the other way; it needs a cut in rates like a hole in the head. In Germany and France, short term interest rates are already very low, at 3.3 per cent. In Italy, Spain and Ireland they are higher, but as the debate about who should converge



OUTLOOK

towards whom rates on, it is perhaps the case that the two core single currency members should be moving up to join the others rather than the other way round. Certainly the pressure for convergence argues very strongly against a further cut in Germany and France.

So actually, if anyone is going to cut rates, it ought to be the United States. Beside the urgent economic need for such action, there is also a moral obligation on the US. The financial markets that have come to pose such a threat to the world economy are largely born and bred in America. Certainly they are one of its biggest industries and exports; the US economy is more closely

aligned with and dependent on them than any other. If these very same financial markets are about to plunge us into recession, the onus is on the US to take the lead in bail-ing us out. If necessary, the US should be prepared to do this alone.

## Fantasy football

IT'S A FUNNY OLD GAME, soccer, and no more so than now with the frenzy of speculation about who's going to bid for whom. Two parallels immediately spring to mind. The first is with what's happened to the electricity sector, where distributors and generators have followed each other into a legion of overpriced corporate deals.

The second, that of the City at the time of Big Bang, is probably the more exact one. Once one securities firm had been sold to a bank, then all banks had to have one, and virtually all securities firms just had to find a suitable sugar daddy too. In the process, a generation of mainly undeserving partners got rich beyond the dreams of avarice while the banks lost their shirts.

Here are two versions of the game of fantasy football being

played out in the City. The first concerns Tottenham Hotspur. Disillusioned with the game after a disastrous start to the season, Alan Sugar let it be known he'd accept 80p a share for his 40 per cent shareholding. To begin with Joe Lewis's Enic low balled him, but last week it finally came up with the rearies.

Mr Sugar then turns round and says he's not selling. Post Rupert Murdoch's bid for Manchester United, it's worth a lot more, he insists. This seems unlikely. Tottenham is unheard of outside the UK and on present form wouldn't qualify for the European super league. It used to be said that even if Spurs was no good on the pitch, at least it was strong off it as one of the most profitable clubs around. Alas even this is no longer true. Tottenham will lose money this year.

Mr Sugar already knows the fans don't like him; they've made that only too plain. Now he's in danger of alienating his shareholders too. This is no way to run a public company. Rather than acting as a conduit for the interests of all shareholders, as he should, Mr Sugar is acting as if the club is wholly his to buy and sell. To redeem his stewardship, Mr Sugar needs to

come up with a higher offer in double quick time. If alternatively he's decided he doesn't want out after all, he must announce a compelling strategy to rescue the club from its present predicament. Neither eventually looks very probable as things stand.

With Manchester United, we now have a real, live fantasy takeover bid. Salomon Smith Barney, the investment bank, has announced through the columns of the Sunday Telegraph that it might counter ESkyB, whether on its own behalf or that of a client is not made clear.

The man heading Salomon's approach is Christian Purslow, an upstart corporate financier who came to prominence last year for an utterly shambling and ultimately fruitless attempt to float Formula One. So is his client Bernie Ecclestone? Apparently not. Who then? Not saying, comes the riposte, but the bid will be debt financed.

Oh really? Any rival would have to pay a minimum £65m, this for a company with minimal earnings. No one in their right mind would attempt leverage in such circumstances.

Still, there must be someone

out there, surely. After painstaking and costly research, we have at last unmasked the mystery bidder. It is Micky Mouse as part of a consortium offer with Ernest Saunders.

## British-Borneo

THE FORMATION of British-Borneo Oil & Gas does not have quite the same ring or breathtaking scale of, say, the BP-Amoco merger. But in a small way, it will have as much, indeed perhaps more, significance for the minnows that swim around in the second tier of the oil exploration sector.

Not that British-Borneo used to be that small. Until the collapse in oil prices, British-Borneo was worth not far short of £1bn, against a closing value last night of half that.

As the name suggests, British-Borneo has a colonial pedigree - it was founded in 1912 on the strength of a fiftal of exploration licenses for what was then British North Borneo, and is now part of east Malaysia. Later it was turned into what was effectively an investment trust, staying that way until 1989, when the tax perks ran out and the present chief executive, Alan

Gaynor, brought it back to life as an active exploration company.

Yesterday's agreed all-paper acquisition of Hardy Oil & Gas marks a modest attempt to recreate the glory days of Empire. The press release bangs on about strategic, asset and cash flow fit. On paper at least, the merger looks a compelling blend of British-Borneo's production flow from the Gulf of Mexico with Hardy's longer-term portfolio of interests and whizz-bang technology.

The deal also offers a dignified exit for Hardy, which sweetened to get its £88m rights issue away in July. With the collapse in the oil price, Hardy is struggling to keep its head above water. For British Borneo, however, there is the prospect only ever having dilution for the time being at least - hence yesterday's 13 per cent retreat in the shares. There is a need for consolidation in the exploration sector, but less of an appetite for yet more shares. For one of the oil majors, Hardy represents nothing more than a square change. Industrial logic is no substitute for value, and if someone could be persuaded to pay cash for Hardy, they could have it for a song.

## IN BRIEF

### Travis forecasts building slowdown

THE UK building industry is heading for a slowdown next year, hit by the recent rises in interest rates and the general economic downturn, Travis Perkins, the country's third largest builders' merchant, warned yesterday.

Tony Travis, chairman, said that despite bullish statements from housebuilders and construction companies, he was cautious on the outlook for 1999. The cumulative impact of higher mortgage rates and macroeconomic uncertainty was already having an effect on the property and housing markets.

His comments came after Travis Perkins reported a 15.5 per cent rise in interim pre-tax profits to £26.12m on turnover up 13 per cent to £84.5m. Shares in Travis Perkins rose 4p to 416.5p.

### Job cuts warning

BRITISH POLYTHENE Industries yesterday warned further jobs cuts could be necessary at the packaging group, which has closed or disposed of five sites and declared 500 redundancies since January. Cameron McLatchie, chairman, said the first half results, which saw a 1.8 per cent rise in pre-tax profits for six months to 30 June 1998, were a good performance in a difficult market, with the strength of sterling, reductions in raw material prices and the wet summer all affecting trading.

### Higher water bills

NORTHUMBRIAN WATER will be able to increase bills from next April to finance obligations under the water regulatory, Olval, confirmed yesterday. Ian Byatt, director-general of water services, said customers' bills would be 18.6p higher than expected as a result of the measure, which allows the company to raise prices, on average, by a maximum of 0.7 per cent above inflation for one year only.

### Cab sales soar

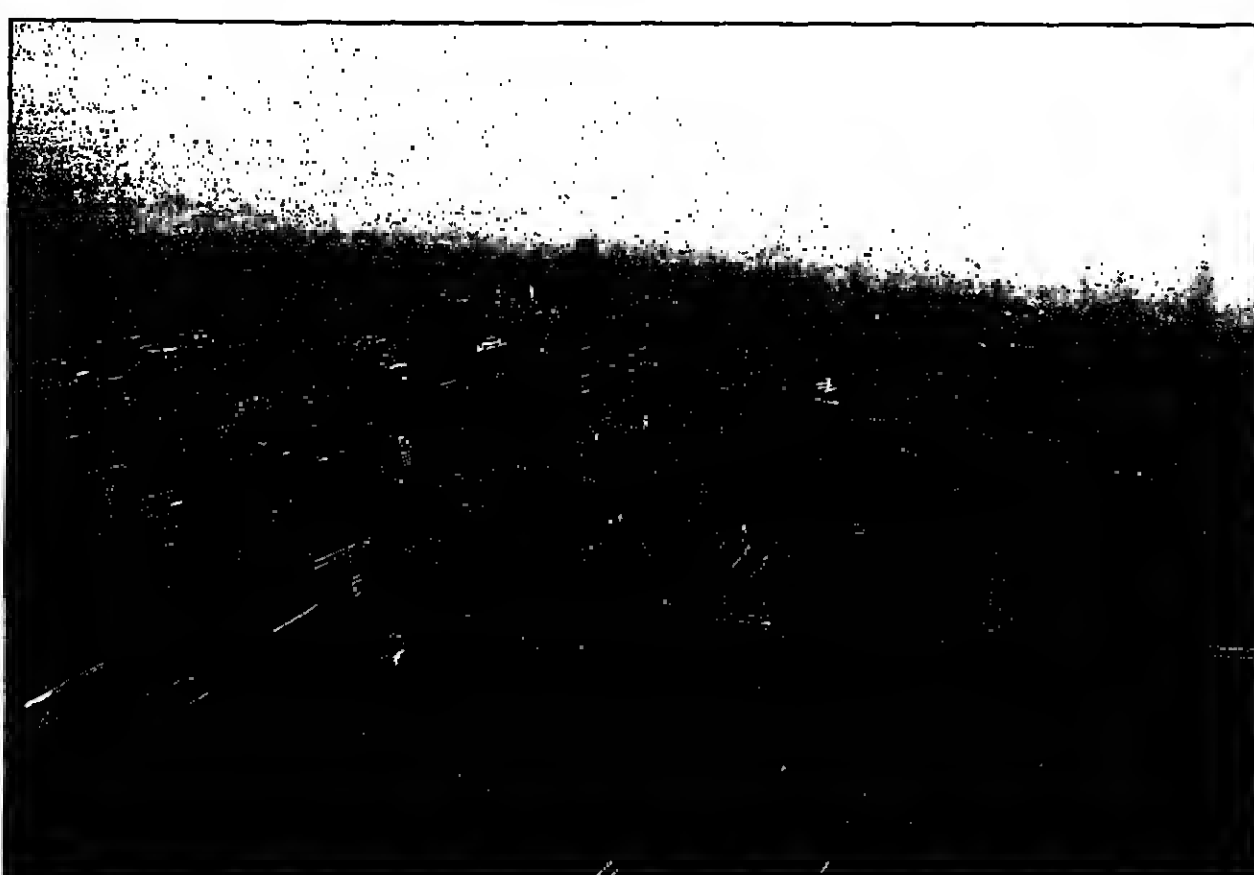
SALES at Manganese Bronze accelerated to record levels after the launch of its new TX1 London taxi last October, the black-cab maker said yesterday. Profits before tax fell from £3.3m to £3m for the year to 31 July. Hugh Lang, chairman, said the fall was due to higher than expected costs of introducing the first completely new model for many years.

However, turnover rose 13 per cent to £115.0m, climbing 29 per cent in the second half as taxi sales rose 24 per cent year-on-year to 1.803.

### IBM weighs sale

INTERNATIONAL Business Machines said it may sell its Global Network business to focus on software and services related to the computer network. The company said it has been talking with "a number of interested parties, including major telecommunications companies" on the sale. The statement comes two weeks after people familiar with the plan said IBM, the world's biggest computer maker, was looking to sell the network for \$1bn to \$1.5bn.

# Is a credit crunch coming?



Leaders in the City are becoming more and more cautious as emerging-market bad debts soar and spreads widen

BY ANDREW GARFIELD  
AND LEA PATERSON

WHEN BARCLAYS' chief executive, Martin Taylor, warned last month that the losses sustained by Western banks in Russia could spark a global credit crunch that could drive us into recession, not everyone was convinced. But the prophecy is coming true, faster than even Mr Taylor feared.

The Russian default and the knock-on effect on banks elsewhere has raised fears of further defaults that have made lenders, especially in the whole-sale markets, extremely jittery. Credit is starting to dry up worldwide.

On Friday, Lehman Brothers, the Wall Street investment bank, was having to reassure creditors about its financial solidity after rival banks called in credit lines because of speculation about dramatic losses in the Latin American markets.

Bankers say it is a sign of things to come. Already some of the smaller American hedge funds have gone under. Lenders are worried who will be next.

Commentators talk of a flight to safety. The trouble is no one knows quite who or what is

## News Analysis: The cost of debt is soaring. Hedge funds and investment banks are already suffering and industry may be next to feel the crunch

safe anymore. People thought British banks had steered clear of Russia, only to find Barclays having to provide £250m for losses in the Russian bond market.

There are tales of dealers who piled into Portuguese bonds after the emerging markets started to go sour; on the grounds that, as a prospective member of the euro, escudo bonds were safe as the proverbial houses. Now the Portuguese central banks are having to intervene in the foreign exchange to keep the currency on target and they are nursing some painful losses.

The day before, the story was of a US Treasury futures dealer for another bulge bracket firm who had bought the market wrong and was in up to his neck. This is a market where, if you hear that a bulge bracket firm is about to file for Chapter 11, you order your dealing desk to pull the plug first and only then get on the phone.

Collateral? The hedge funds had that, look where it got them. Hedges? In the rubble bond crisis, they were worthless.

Standard & Poors, the credit rating agency, said yesterday there were 18 countries where it saw signs of "deteriorating credit quality". These included not only countries already showing signs of strain, such as Hong Kong and the Philippines but countries which on the surface appeared robust, including Singapore, Taiwan and, most disturbingly, the US.

Unable to decide where the surefire bets are any more, lenders are putting up the shutters and going home. "There is definitely a credit crunch going on," says credit analyst Daniel Sankey at Greenwich Natwest, the bond broking arm of National Westminster Bank. "The question is how big."

The telltale sign that credit supply is drying up is the soaring cost of wholesale credit. With investors bailing out of high-risk debt, the cost for countries and companies of refinancing has soared in some cases to prohibitive levels. That is if you can get anyone to take your paper in the first place. New issue activity has dried

up in both equity and bond markets. One bond dealer said: "We are seeing stuff here that no one will buy at any price."

The key indicator of the market's appetite for risk is the spreads, or prices quoted on high-yielding debt instruments, where swaps, futures and bonds are glowing red. Spreads have jumped as much as 4-5 per cent for sterling-denominated bonds over the last month. Sterling bonds have been hit harder than either dollar or euro bonds. Even blue-chip lenders are paying as much as half a percentage point more than they were a month ago.

The problem has been exacerbated by the explosion of the derivatives market over recent years, which has made big corporates and financial institutions far more dependent on the vagaries of global capital flows. The value of the swaps market at the end of 1997 was \$30 trillion, about eight times the stock of international debt. Big investors are heavily dependent on these markets to fund trades and provide hedges.

Some say that this is purely a problem for the hedge funds and the investment banks, who deserve all they are now getting. Michael Foot, head of banking supervision at the Financial Services Authority, which in June took over the role of overseer of the UK banking system, remains sanguine.

Mergers and acquisitions activity will fall sharply in the UK and the US, he says, and there will obviously be a slowdown in new share issues. "That would be bad news for investment bankers but the link between that and any productive value-added activity is not immediately apparent."

Britain's banks are, by global standards relatively well capitalised. Clearly the average overdraft is not about to be called in, nor are we about to see a rash of foreclosures among otherwise solvent small and medium-sized companies. But the immediate impact on the City is considerable and the Square Mile remains a huge wealth generator not just for London but for the UK as a whole.

Andy Blackmore

We may be some way from the nightmare scenario of Japan, where interest rates have been slashed to the bone and still people will not borrow or lend. But, say the Cassandras, things could snowball.

Michael Derks at Nomura, believes there is little room for optimism. "We now have a global credit crunch. It will intensify and make it difficult for the global economy to avoid recession."

Today the shutters go up for the hedge funds and investment banks who have been borrowing heavily - "leveraging up," to use the market terminology - to fund what subsequently proved to be high-risk trading strategies like borrowing yen to fund bets on Latin American or Russian bond markets. Then come venture capitalists and the buyout specialists like CVC Hands at Nomura, who have been milking eager bond markets for cash to fund ever more ambitious deals.

Some of those are going to find themselves squeezed on all sides. As one banker explained: "Refinancing becomes more problematic, you cannot sell the companies and you get hit by the deteriorating economic climate." Time to fasten seatbelts, one thinks.

## ECC in £100m share buy-back plan

BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA

ENGLISH CHINA Clays (ECC), the chemicals and minerals group, is planning a return of cash to shareholders of around £100m through a share buy-back in a bid to prop up its ailing share price.

The company - the world's largest producer of kaolin, a soft clay used in paper and ceramics - said yesterday that it was considering "a significant repurchase of shares". It is understood that ECC could buy back up to 20 per cent of its shares - a move that would cost about £100m at yesterday's closing price. The bulk of the buy-back is set to take place after April 1999 to take advantage of tax changes, according to sources close to the company.

Lawrence Urquhart, chairman, said the board decided to return cash to shareholders after being "disappointed by the company's share price performance".

ECC made a large loss in 1996 after a radical overhaul of its key businesses. It returned to the black last year, but the turnaround failed to trigger a recovery in the share price.

Shares in ECC have fallen by almost a half since their 12-month peak of 290.5p in October, amid a general downgrade of the extraction sector and concerns over weaker mineral prices.

They rebounded 18.5p to 163.5p yesterday, buoyed by news of the share buyback and the release of interim results in line with City analysts' expectations. ECC reported a 5 per cent increase in pre-tax profit to £43.5m on turnover up slightly to £417.2m. Sales in its core paper minerals division jumped 8 per cent in the first half, but prices remained subdued, ECC said.

The company also announced the acquisition of Minco, a US ceramics business, for \$28m (£17.5m). Patrick Drayton, finance director, said the purchase was part of ECC's strategy of growing through bolt-on acquisitions. He said the company could spend up to £35m by the end of the year on similar acquisitions.

# Tuscan vineyard toasts bond issue

INVESTORS LACKING the self-control to lay aside a few top-quality bottles for special occasions will find the challenge simpler when Tuscan's biggest winemaker, Marchesi de' Frescobaldi SpA, floats an ECU10m wine bond issue.

The bond offers a cost-price option on forthcoming Brunello di Montalcino Castel Giocondo. To be issued in early October, each ECU2000 bond will give investors four warrants with options on a six-bottle case of the 1996, 1997, 1998 and

BY ANNE HANLEY  
in Rome

1999 vintages when the bond matures over four years from 2001.

The bond was launched by Giovanni Geddes di Filicaia, chief executive officer of Marchesi de' Frescobaldi, at a sumptuous presentation in the Frescobaldi family palace in Florence.

"This is not the same as the wine futures, which have become so fashionable in France," said Mr Filicaia.

"This is a genuine financial instrument, which to date has

only been used once before by the Antinori winemakers, who did not float theirs internationally."

The bond, to be handled by the Italian investment bank Mediobanca, will be placed in Italy, Switzerland, France and on other European markets, Mr Filicaia said.

The funds will be used to expand production facilities at the company's Pomino estate, north-east of Florence, where the ancient Florentine wine-producing family has been active for centuries, said Vittorio Frescobaldi, the chairman of the company.

The estate, the first to import French wine stock to Tuscan more than 150 years ago, produces Chardonnays and a Sangiovese-based red on the rolling hills of the Chianti Rufina zone.

At its Castel Giocondo estate in Montalcino, the Frescobaldi family produce what experts agree are some of the highest-quality Brunello and Rosso di Montalcino wines on the market.

According to Italy's leading Gambero Rosso wine guide, however, the 1992 vintage of the estate's most prestigious product - the vintage of the

Brunello now on sale to be offered to bond buyers - failed to meet the wine's usual high standard.

The bond issue is the latest in a series of moves to enhance production and sales, moves which have taken output up from 5m bottles in 1995 to 6m this year.

Production at Pomino alone is expected to double to 1.2m bottles, thanks to the investment of income from the wine bond.

More than 60 per cent of Frescobaldi's output is exported, with the United States taking the lion's share.

## CLASSIFIED

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE  
CHANCERY DIVISION  
COMPANIES COURT

IN THE MATTER OF TOM HOSKINS PLC  
ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 2nd September 1998 confirming the reduction of capital of the above named Company from £A.190,524.30 to £A.100,000.00 and the reduction of the share premium account of the Company from £66,567 to £28,965 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 7th September 1998.

PEITY SESSIONAL DIVISION OF  
SOUTH WEST SURRY  
NOTICE OF APPLICATION  
PROVISIONAL JUSTICES ON LICENCE

To whom it may concern, I, James Murray, Surveyor of Peity Sessions (Peity Sessions), Limited, 7, McKee Trading Estate, Kew Road, London W9 1BN having during the past six months carried on the trade of calling of Arms Manager DO HEREBY GIVE YOU NOTICE that a s. 95 application to apply for the transfer of the Peity Sessions Division of South West Surrey to be held at Guildford (Surrey) Court, Mary Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4AS on Friday 2nd October 1998 at 10.15am for the grant to me of a provisional justice's licence authorising me to sell by retail any quantity of all descriptions of consumption on the premises about to be altered and situate at Unit 2, 36-102 High Street, Cranleigh and to be known by the name of "Peity Sessions" said premises are owned by Mead Properties Limited, 55A, Welbeck Street, London W1M 7TD AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that this licence shall be subject to Part IV statutory conditions.

GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS this 9th day of September 1998.

Popplestone Allen Solicitors  
for and on behalf of the applicant  
37 Stoney Street, The Law Centre,  
Nottingham NG1 1LS







# Not wonderful, but better than most

A WEEK in Tokyo helps put the problems of the rest of the world in perspective. While the relative decline in economic activity has been much greater in Indonesia, Russia and now, it seems, Brazil, the absolute decline has been far greater in Japan than anywhere else in the world.

The scale and nature of the Japanese recession is discussed in the second section of this paper, but the experience of seeing the concern of the Japanese business community does not just put our quite modest troubles in perspective. It also puts into perspective the rolling recession into which the world seems to be sliding.

Seen from London what has been happening in Japan ought to have been the most serious shock the world economy has experienced. The collapse of the East Asian emerging market economies was both dramatic and painful.

A large chunk of the middle class will have seen their savings wiped out. But without in any way trying to minimise the human and political importance of this catastrophe, from a world economic viewpoint it did not seem to matter very much.



HAMISH MCRAE

*The easiest way to understand the links is that each crash is just 'one more damn thing'*

The East Asian emerging economies were dazzling performers, but most of them were tiny. Their weight in terms of world output was too small to affect the whole.

competitors, and the extent to which Japanese banks had financed their expansion. But even allowing for all that, the decline ought not to have hit Japan as hard as it has.

So what happened? I think the easiest way to understand both the link between emerging East Asia and Japan, and the links between the collapses in Russia and Brazil and the rest of the world is that each crash is "one more damn thing".

If we do indeed have a full world recession over the next two to three years - as opposed to the partial world recession which is happening now - it will be because each bit of bad news, while unimportant in isolation, takes on seismic importance when piled on top of another.

Last month it was Russia that tipped the US markets from concern into terror. Russia itself does not matter in economic terms, though of course it remains vital in geopolitical and military terms.

But people started adding up the sums and realising that if you wrote off the full debts owed to many international banks you wiped out a large portion of their year's profits. Then they thought, wait a minute,

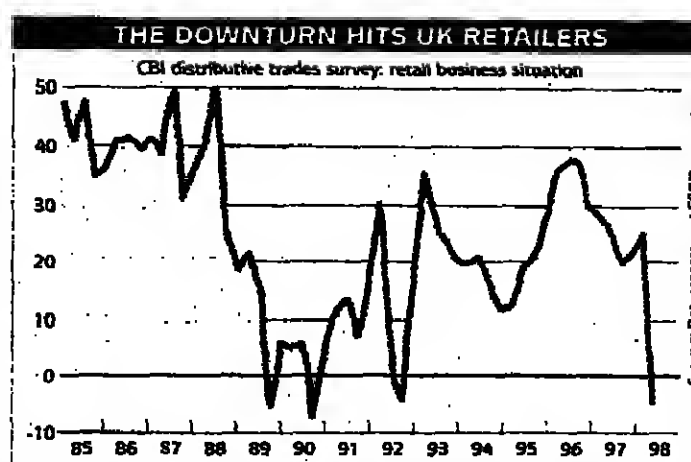
we ought to do the same sort of calculation for other dodgy external debts, like Brazil or Venezuela.

It may be irrational for the currency crisis of Russia to spread to Latin America - the only real parallel is that both regions face explosive political situations - but that is what seems to have happened. Add up the doubtful debts and suddenly the position of perfectly solid banks looked decidedly unpleasant.

Now I am not saying that there is a generalised global banking crisis, as there is in Japan. But banks the world over are going to be very careful in their lending for the next three or four years, maybe longer. This is one indication of a change in the global investment mood, a change that the London economics team of HSBC has called "a new sobriety".

There is nothing wrong with being sober. Indeed, had the world banking and investment community been rather more sober over the past three years the East Asian boom would have been more muted and the scale of the subsequent collapse less grave.

The difficulty is that an excess of sobriety is almost as destructive to the world economy as an excess of



excess. If we do experience a rolling world recession, where each bit of bad news is piled on top of the last so that finally even the relatively solid economies of North America and western Europe are ground down, then the financial system will have to take its share of the blame. How does Britain appear through the prism of these newly sober market operators? Three factors seem to distinguish the UK economy at the moment.

The first is that thanks to the much-reviled surge in interest rates, we may have managed to chip the top off the boom. Sure, manufacturing has had a miserable time, but that was collateral damage in the effort to curb the services boom. In the past month or so it has seemed the service side is heading down a bit too. We are no longer such a dual economy. The sentiment of retailers (see chart) has now fallen to the same sort of level that it was at during the last recession. That does not necessarily mean a recession is on the way, although obvious that is a risk. But it does

mean that there is beginning to be a domestic case for interest rate cuts.

Second, we still have some inflation so that by cutting nominal interest rates it is possible to cut real rates. In a world of deflation and falling prices, cutting interest rates is pushing on a string, for you may simply find that prices fall even faster, so real rates do not fall at all. Given the close link between short-term interest rates, house prices and domestic demand, we may be better placed to pump up demand should the rolling recession roll over us.

And third, we still retain policy freedom - in fact, we probably have more room for manoeuvre than any other G7 country, including the US. We can cut rates and try and reduce the exchange rate. We have a sound fiscal position and so we could try to boost demand that way. And we have a relatively flexible economy, unlike continental Europe and Japan, which ought to respond to policy changes.

It is not a bad position to be in, if as sadly looks more likely by the week, the world economy does continue to deteriorate. Not wonderful, just better than most.

## Tougher code for banks is open to abuse

BANKING CUSTOMERS were yesterday warned that a new code designed to protect them from unfair practices contained loopholes that left it open to abuse by high street banks.

The country's banks and building societies yesterday launched a tougher banking code which claims to stamp out abuses such as lowering interest rates on existing savings accounts while failing to tell customers of new accounts with better rates.

The code was introduced after a furious protest by customers of Northern Rock, the newly converted building society. Customers were shocked to learn they had been switched into new accounts with different notice periods and, in many cases, lower interest rates. Some banks are also alleged to have told staff not to let customers know about new accounts with better interest rates, allowing them to pay lower interest to millions of customers on accounts they deemed "obsolete". The practice, known as portfolio management, can save banks millions of pounds a year.

The code claims to ban the use of obsolete accounts. It re-

quires banks to raise interest rates on existing accounts to the same level as a new account - but only if it is "similar" to the old one. If it is not similar, they must write to customers offering the opportunity to switch.

But industry figures warned that banks can circumvent the rules by tweaking the terms on new accounts so they are not "similar". Customers may also fail to respond to letters about the terms of their accounts.

Brian Davis, chief executive of Nationwide, said: "The danger is that it will legitimise the use of obsolete accounts. Because you have written to people and told them you have done it, it will be considered OK. But the principle is that you shouldn't do it in the first place."

Although the code was welcomed as "a step forward", others also warned it could be abused in practice.

David Anderson, chief executive of Yorkshire building society, said banks and building societies "must go with the spirit as well as the letter of the code. Some people will try it on but I am sure people will be watching."

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### IN BRIEF

#### Asian downturn forces Morgan Crucible to sell division

MORGAN CRUCIBLE is to sell its specialty materials unit to focus on its carbon and ceramics businesses, the hi-tech equipment maker said yesterday. The Windsor-based maker of fire bricks, ceramics and carbon electronics equipment said the decision to sell the specialty division, which produces advanced lubricants, metalworking products and electronic components for the aerospace, nuclear, telecoms and military industries, followed the economic downturn in Asia, where Morgan has several units. Morgan Crucible shares rose 6p, or 2 per cent, to 301p, after the company reported a 3.5 per cent rise in first-half profits and said profit was likely to be higher in the second half, if only because of acquisitions.

#### Edinburgh development sold for £42m

MARLBORNE Warwick Balfour has bought Fountain Park from Scottish & Newcastle and TFI for £42m cash, the group announced yesterday. The Fountain Park commercial leisure development, currently under construction in the centre of Edinburgh, is 94 per cent pre-let to large tenants and is expected to generate annual rental income of approximately £2.9m, reflecting a prospective initial yield of 6.65 per cent. Marlbhone Warwick Balfour said.

#### Second French acquisition for Weir

WEIR GROUP, the world's sixth biggest pump-maker, has made its second bolt-on acquisition in France within a month, buying Schabaver from Sterling Fluid Systems for Fr47m (£5m). Weir said Schabaver and its associated company, Fabrimex, would complement the slurry pump operations of its EnviroTech Pumpsystems unit. Last month it paid Fr60m for Sebim Holding, a family-owned valve and actuator manufacturer. Weir said the Schabaver deal would increase its manufacturing network to 30 plants in 14 countries.

#### Slumberland group raises £524,000

FRENCH, the soft furnishing group which makes Slumberland bed products, is to place 1.31 million shares to raise £524,000, it said yesterday. The shares have been privately placed with investors at 40p per ordinary share. The placing, subject to shareholder approval, would enable it to develop its UK businesses, reduce borrowings and provide additional working capital, the group said. It also said the loss declared at the interim stage would increase because of provisions.

#### Vanguard Medica shares fall

SHARES IN Vanguard Medica fell 10p to 320p after it said it intended to stop developing two psoriasis treatments, it said yesterday. Vanguard said its compounds, VML 295 and VML 282, Vanguard said its decision followed a re-evaluation of the commercial potential of these compounds on completion of phase two studies.

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100

MAIN MOVERS

RISES				FALLS			
PRICE	CHG	%CH	PRICE	CHG	PRICE	CHG	%CH
White	187.50	15.00	14.58	Bell Service Pkt	288.50	-25.00	-8.33
Yellowstone Vty	728.00	45.00	6.82	Comcast Internet	338.50	-10.00	-2.95
Verizon Pktd	958.00	25.00	2.62	Amegyco	431.00	-31.00	-7.19
United Zurich	880.00	48.00	5.54	CompuLink	480.00	-10.00	-2.08
Marathon	370.00	18.00	4.91	Polaris	245.00	-15.00	-5.71
Marathon Retail	190.50	8.00	4.15	Delta Sporting	21.25	-2.00	-9.38
United Dominion	494.00	15.00	3.03	Adams Media	85.50	-5.00	-5.88
Microtrans	287.50	15.00	5.18	Webpage	187.50	-15.00	-7.95
Millennium Int	1170.00	30.00	2.57	Roanoke	175.00	-5.00	-2.86
Aluminum & Lte	265.00	23.00	8.73	J&J Oil Co	19.50	-1.00	-5.13

MARKET LEADERS

TOP 20 VOLUMES at 5pm									
Stock	Vol.	Stk	Vol.	Stk	Vol.	Stk	Vol.	Stk	Vol.
Bank	29,070	Alk Zurich	2,210	Bk Perlecom	8,710	Ulyde TSD	3,000	Stk	8,900
Comerica	23,870	BTR	1,400	Ledcor	8,000	Wd	2,000	Stk	8,900
Shell Transp	21,000	Stk	1,400	Wd	2,000	Stk	1,400	Stk	8,900
Wd Telecom	19,400	Wd	1,400	Wd	2,000	Stk	1,400	Stk	8,900
General Energy	15,300	Wd	1,400	Wd	2,000	Stk	1,400	Stk	8,900

FISE 100 INDEX

HOUR BY HOUR									
Time	Stock	Price	Chg	%Ch	Time	Stock	Price	Chg	%Ch
9:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	1:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
10:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	2:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
10:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	2:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
11:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	3:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
11:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	3:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
12:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	4:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
12:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	4:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
13:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	5:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
13:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	5:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
14:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	6:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
14:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	6:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
15:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	7:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
15:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	7:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
16:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	8:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
16:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	8:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
17:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	9:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
17:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	9:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
18:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	10:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
18:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	10:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
19:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	11:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
19:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	11:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
20:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	12:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
20:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	12:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
21:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	13:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
21:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	13:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
22:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	14:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
22:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	14:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
23:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	15:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
23:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	15:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
24:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	16:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
24:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	16:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
25:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	17:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
25:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	17:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
26:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	18:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
26:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	18:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
27:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	19:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
27:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	19:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
28:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	20:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
28:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	20:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
29:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	21:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
29:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	21:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
30:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	22:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
30:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	22:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
31:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	23:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
31:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	23:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
32:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	24:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
32:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	24:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
33:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	25:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
33:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	25:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
34:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	26:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
34:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	26:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
35:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	27:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
35:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	27:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
36:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	28:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
36:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	28:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
37:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	29:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
37:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	29:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
38:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	30:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
38:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	30:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
39:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	31:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
39:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	31:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
40:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	32:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
40:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	32:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
41:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	33:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
41:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	33:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
42:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	34:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
42:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	34:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
43:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	35:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
43:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	35:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
44:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	36:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
44:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	36:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
45:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	37:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
45:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	37:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
46:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	38:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
46:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	38:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
47:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	39:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
47:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	39:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
48:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	40:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
48:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	40:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
49:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	41:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
49:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	41:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
50:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	42:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
50:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	42:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
51:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	43:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
51:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	43:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
52:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	44:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
52:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	44:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
53:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	45:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
53:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	45:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
54:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	46:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
54:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	46:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
55:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	47:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
55:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	47:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
56:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	48:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
56:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	48:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
57:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	49:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
57:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	49:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
58:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	50:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
58:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	50:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
59:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	51:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
59:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	51:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
60:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	52:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
60:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	52:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
61:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	53:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
61:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	53:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
62:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	54:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
62:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	54:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
63:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	55:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
63:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	55:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
64:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	56:00	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
64:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03	56:30	100	1112.8	0.3	0.03
65:00	100	1112.8	0						

STOCKS		BOND		COMMODITY		CURRENCY		FUTURES	
SYMBOL	PRICE	SYMBOL	PRICE	SYMBOL	PRICE	SYMBOL	PRICE	SYMBOL	PRICE
100 Apple	135.00	100 IBM	110.00	100 Gold	135.00	100 Euro	1.00	100 Soybean	1.00
101 Microsoft	120.00	101 GE	30.00	101 Silver	1.50	101 Yen	1.00	101 Corn	1.00
102 Amazon	150.00	102 Ford	10.00	102 Oil	20.00	102 Pound	1.00	102 Wheat	1.00
103 Google	250.00	103 GM	15.00	103 Natural Gas	1.00	103 Swiss Franc	1.00	103 Rice	1.00
104 Facebook	180.00	104 Chrysler	5.00	104 Copper	1.00	104 Japanese Yen	1.00	104 Sugar	1.00
105 Tesla	200.00	105 Daimler	40.00	105 Nickel	1.00	105 Australian Dollar	1.00	105 Coffee	1.00
106 Netflix	450.00	106 Volkswagen	20.00	106 Zinc	1.00	106 Canadian Dollar	1.00	106 Tea	1.00
107 Disney	110.00	107 Airbus	100.00	107 Lead	1.00	107 New Zealand Dollar	1.00	107 Cotton	1.00
108 Nike	80.00	108 Boeing	150.00	108 Tin	1.00	108 Hong Kong Dollar	1.00	108 Lumber	1.00
109 Coca-Cola	45.00	109 Lockheed	30.00	109 Platinum	1.00	109 Singapore Dollar	1.00	109 Paper	1.00
110 McDonald's	25.00	110 General Electric	12.00	110 Palladium	1.00	110 Taiwan Dollar	1.00	110 Hides	1.00
111 Walmart	55.00	111 Honeywell	18.00	111 Indium	1.00	111 South Korean Won	1.00	111 Wool	1.00
112 Target	140.00	112 Johnson & Johnson	150.00	112 Cadmium	1.00	112 Indian Rupee	1.00	112 Rubber	1.00
113 Home Depot	300.00	113 Merck	40.00	113 Vanadium	1.00	113 Brazilian Real	1.00	113 Leather	1.00
114 Costco	40.00	114 Pfizer	25.00	114 Manganese	1.00	114 Mexican Peso	1.00	114 Silk	1.00
115 Kroger	25.00	115 Eli Lilly	15.00	115 Chromium	1.00	115 Argentine Peso	1.00	115 Fur	1.00
116 Costco	40.00	116 Amgen	10.00	115 Cobalt	1.00	116 Chilean Peso	1.00	116 Pearls	1.00
117 Amazon	150.00	117 Bristol Myers	12.00	116 Molybdenum	1.00	117 Colombian Peso	1.00	117 Diamonds	1.00
118 Google	250.00	118 Novartis	35.00	116 Selenium	1.00	118 Dominican Republic	1.00	118 Precious Metals	1.00
119 Microsoft	120.00	119 GlaxoSmithKline	20.00	117 Bismuth	1.00	119 Ecuadorian Dollar	1.00	119 Gemstones	1.00
120 Apple	135.00	120 Sanofi	15.00	117 Tellurium	1.00	120 Guatemalan Quetzal	1.00	120 Jewelry	1.00
121 Tesla	200.00	121 AbbVie	10.00	118 Antimony	1.00	121 Honduran Lempira	1.00	121 Watches	1.00
122 Amazon	150.00	122 Regeneron	12.00	118 Arsenic	1.00	122 Nicaraguan Cordoba	1.00	122 Clocks	1.00
123 Google	250.00	123 Vertex	8.00	119 Beryllium	1.00	123 Costa Rican Colon	1.00	123 Cameras	1.00
124 Facebook	180.00	124 Amgen	10.00	119 Cadmium	1.00	124 Cuban Peso	1.00	124 Computers	1.00
125 Tesla	200.00	125 Bristol Myers	12.00	120 Barium	1.00	125 Dominican Republic	1.00	125 Cell Phones	1.00
126 Netflix	450.00	126 GlaxoSmithKline	20.00	120 Bismuth	1.00	126 Ecuadorian Dollar	1.00	126 Consoles	1.00
127 Disney	110.00	127 Sanofi	15.00	121 Cadmium	1.00	127 Guatemalan Quetzal	1.00	127 Laptops	1.00
128 Nike	80.00	128 AbbVie	10.00	121 Barium	1.00	128 Honduran Lempira	1.00	128 Monitors	1.00
129 Coca-Cola	45.00	129 Regeneron	12.00	122 Bismuth	1.00	129 Nicaraguan Cordoba	1.00	129 Printers	1.00
130 McDonald's	25.00	130 Vertex	8.00	122 Barium	1.00	130 Costa Rican Colon	1.00	130 Scanners	1.00
131 Walmart	55.00	131 Amgen	10.00	123 Barium	1.00	131 Cuban Peso	1.00	131 Servers	1.00
132 Target	140.00	132 Bristol Myers	12.00	123 Bismuth	1.00	132 Dominican Republic	1.00	132 Storage	1.00
133 Home Depot	300.00	133 GlaxoSmithKline	20.00	124 Barium	1.00	133 Ecuadorian Dollar	1.00	133 Tablets	1.00
134 Costco	40.00	134 Sanofi	15.00	124 B					

STOCKS		BOND		COMMODITY		CURRENCY		FUTURES	
SYMBOL	PRICE	SYMBOL	PRICE	SYMBOL	PRICE	SYMBOL	PRICE	SYMBOL	PRICE
135 Apple	135.00	135 IBM	110.00	135 Gold	135.00	135 Euro	1.00	135 Soybean	1.00
136 Microsoft	120.00	136 GE	30.00	136 Silver	1.50	136 Yen	1.00	136 Corn	1.00
137 Amazon	150.00	137 Ford	10.00	137 Oil	20.00	137 Pound	1.00	137 Wheat	1.00
138 Google	250.00	138 GM	15.00	138 Natural Gas	1.00	138 Swiss Franc	1.00	138 Rice	1.00
139 Facebook	180.00	139 Chrysler	5.00	139 Copper	1.00	139 Japanese Yen	1.00	139 Sugar	1.00
140 Tesla	200.00	140 Daimler	40.00	140 Nickel	1.00	140 Australian Dollar	1.00	140 Coffee	1.00
141 Netflix	450.00	141 Volkswagen	20.00	141 Zinc	1.00	141 Canadian Dollar	1.00	141 Tea	1.00
142 Disney	110.00	142 Airbus	100.00	142 Lead	1.00	142 New Zealand Dollar	1.00	142 Cotton	1.00
143 Nike	80.00	143 Boeing	150.00	143 Tin	1.00	143 Hong Kong Dollar	1.00	143 Lumber	1.00
144 Coca-Cola	45.00	144 Lockheed	30.00	144 Platinum	1.00	144 Singapore Dollar	1.00	144 Paper	1.00
145 McDonald's	25.00	145 General Electric	12.00	145 Palladium	1.00	145 Taiwan Dollar	1.00	145 Hides	1.00
146 Walmart	55.00	146 Honeywell	18.00	146 Indium	1.00	146 South Korean Won	1.00	146 Wool	1.00
147 Target	140.00	147 Johnson & Johnson	150.00	147 Cadmium	1.00	147 Indian Rupee	1.00	147 Rubber	1.00
148 Home Depot	300.00	148 Merck	40.00	148 Vanadium	1.00	148 Brazilian Real	1.00	148 Leather	1.00
149 Costco	40.00	149 Pfizer	25.00	149 Manganese	1.00	149 Mexican Peso	1.00	149 Silk	1.00
150 Kroger	25.00	150 Eli Lilly	15.00	150 Chromium	1.00	150 Argentine Peso	1.00	150 Fur	1.00
151 Costco	40.00	151 Amgen	10.00	150 Cobalt	1.00	151 Chilean Peso	1.00	151 Pearls	1.00
152 Amazon	150.00	152 Bristol Myers	12.00	151 Molybdenum	1.00	152 Colombian Peso	1.00	152 Diamonds	1.00
153 Google	250.00	153 Novartis	35.00	151 Selenium	1.00	153 Dominican Republic	1.00	153 Precious Metals	1.00
154 Microsoft	120.00	154 GlaxoSmithKline	20.00	152 Bismuth	1.00	154 Ecuadorian Dollar	1.00	154 Gemstones	1.00
155 Apple	135.00	155 Sanofi	15.00	152 Tellurium	1.00	155 Guatemalan Quetzal	1.00	155 Jewelry	1.00
156 Tesla	200.00	156 AbbVie	10.00	153 Antimony	1.00	156 Honduran Lempira	1.00	156 Watches	1.00
157 Amazon	150.00	157 Regeneron	12.00	153 Arsenic	1.00	157 Nicaraguan Cordoba	1.00	157 Clocks	1.00
158 Google	250.00	158 Vertex	8.00	154 Beryllium	1.00	158 Costa Rican Colon	1.00	158 Cameras	1.00
159 Facebook	180.00	159 Amgen	10.00	154 Cadmium	1.00	159 Cuban Peso	1.00	159 Computers	1.00
160 Tesla	200.00	160 Bristol Myers	12.00	155 Barium	1.00	160 Dominican Republic	1.00	160 Cell Phones	1.00
161 Netflix	450.00	161 GlaxoSmithKline	20.00	155 Bismuth	1.00	161 Ecuadorian Dollar	1.00	161 Consoles	1.00
162 Disney	110.00	162 Sanofi	15.00	156 Cadmium	1.00	162 Guatemalan Quetzal	1.00	162 Laptops	1.00
163 Nike	80.00	163 AbbVie	10.00	156 Barium	1.00	163 Honduran Lempira	1.00	163 Monitors	1.00
164 Coca-Cola	45.00	164 Regeneron	12.00	157 Bismuth	1.00	164 Nicaraguan Cordoba	1.00	164 Printers	1.00
165 McDonald's	25.00	165 Vertex	8.00	157 Barium	1.00	165 Costa Rican Colon	1.00	165 Scanners	1.00
166 Walmart	55.00	166 Amgen	10.00	158 Barium	1.00	166 Cuban Peso	1.00	166 Servers	1.00
167 Target	140.00	167 Bristol Myers	12.00	158 Bismuth	1.00	167 Dominican Republic	1.00	167 Storage	1.00
168 Home Depot	300.00	168 GlaxoSmithKline	20.00	159 Barium	1.00	168 Ecuadorian Dollar	1.00	168 Tablets	1.00
169 Costco	40.00	169 Sanofi	15.00	159 B					

STOCKS		BOND		COMMODITY		CURRENCY		FUTURES	
SYMBOL	PRICE	SYMBOL	PRICE	SYMBOL	PRICE	SYMBOL	PRICE	SYMBOL	PRICE
170 Apple	135.00	170 IBM	110.00	170 Gold	135.00	170 Euro	1.00	170 Soybean	1.00
171 Microsoft	120.00	171 GE	30.00	171 Silver	1.50	171 Yen	1.00	171 Corn	1.00
172 Amazon	150.00	172 Ford	10.00	172 Oil	20.00	172 Pound	1.00	172 Wheat	1.00
173 Google	250.00	173 GM	15.00	173 Natural Gas	1.00	173 Swiss Franc	1.00	173 Rice	1.00
174 Facebook	180.00	174 Chrysler	5.00	174 Copper	1.00	174 Japanese Yen	1.00	174 Sugar	1.00
175 Tesla	200.00	175 Daimler	40.00	175 Nickel	1.00	175 Australian Dollar	1.00	175 Coffee	1.00
176 Netflix	450.00	176 Volkswagen	20.00	176 Zinc	1.00	176 Canadian Dollar	1.00	176 Tea	1.00
177 Disney	110.00	177 Airbus	100.00	177 Lead	1.00	177 New Zealand Dollar	1.00	177 Cotton	1.00
178 Nike	80.00	178 Boeing	150.00	178 Tin	1.00	178 Hong Kong Dollar	1.00	178 Lumber	1.00
179 Coca-Cola	45.00	179 Lockheed	30.00	179 Platinum	1.00	179 Singapore Dollar	1.00	179 Paper	1.00
180 McDonald's	25.00	180 General Electric	12.00	180 Palladium	1.00	180 Taiwan Dollar	1.00	180 Hides	1.00
181 Walmart	55.00	181 Honeywell	18.00	181 Indium	1.00	181 South Korean Won	1.00	181 Wool	1.00
182 Target	140.00	182 Johnson & Johnson	150.00	182 Cadmium	1.00	182 Indian Rupee	1.00	182 Rubber	1.00
183 Home Depot	300.00	183 Merck	40.00	183 Vanadium	1.00	183 Brazilian Real	1.00	183 Leather	1.00
184 Costco	40.00	184 Pfizer	25.00	184 Manganese	1.00	184 Mexican Peso	1.00	184 Silk	1.00
185 Kroger	25.00	185 Eli Lilly	15.00	185 Chromium	1.00	185 Argentine Peso	1.00	185 Fur	1.00
186 Costco	40.00	186 Amgen	10.00	185 Cobalt	1.00	186 Chilean Peso	1.00	186 Pearls	1.00
187 Amazon	150.00	187 Bristol Myers	12.00	186 Molybdenum	1.00	187 Colombian Peso	1.00	187 Diamonds	1.00
188 Google	250.00	188 Novartis	35.00	186 Selenium	1.00	188 Dominican Republic	1.00	188 Precious Metals	1.00
189 Microsoft	120.00	189 GlaxoSmithKline	20.00	187 Bismuth	1.00	189 Ecuadorian Dollar	1.00	189 Gemstones	1.00
190 Apple	135.00	190 Sanofi	15.00	187 Tellurium	1.00	190 Guatemalan Quetzal	1.00	190 Jewelry	1.00
191 Tesla	200.00	191 AbbVie	10.00	188 Antimony	1.00	191 Honduran Lempira	1.00	191 Watches	1.00
192 Amazon	150.00	192 Regeneron	12.00	188 Arsenic	1.00	192 Nicaraguan Cordoba	1.00	192 Clocks	1.00
193 Google	250.00	193 Vertex	8.00	189 Beryllium	1.00	193 Costa Rican Colon	1.00	193 Cameras	1.00
194 Facebook	180.00	194 Amgen	10.00	189 Cadmium	1.00	194 Cuban Peso	1.00	194 Computers	1.00
195 Tesla	200.00	195 Bristol Myers	12.00	190 Barium	1.00	195 Dominican Republic	1.00	195 Cell Phones	1.00
196 Netflix	450.00	196 GlaxoSmithKline	20.00	190 Bismuth	1.00	196 Ecuadorian Dollar	1.00	196 Consoles	1.00
197 Disney	110.00	197 Sanofi	15.00	191 Cadmium	1.00	197 Guatemalan Quetzal	1.00	197 Laptops	1.00
198 Nike	80.00	198 AbbVie	10.00	191 Barium	1.00	198 Honduran Lempira	1.00	198 Monitors	1.00
199 Coca-Cola	45.00	199 Regeneron	12.00	192 Bismuth	1.00	199 Nicaraguan Cordoba	1.00	199 Printers	1.00
200 McDonald's	25.00	200 Vertex	8.00	192 Barium	1.00	200 Costa Rican Colon	1.00	200 Scanners	1.00
201 Walmart	55.00	201 Amgen	10.00	193 Barium	1.00	201 Cuban Peso	1.00	201 Servers	1.00
202 Target	140.00	202 Bristol Myers	12.00	193 Bismuth	1.00	202 Dominican Republic	1.00	202 Storage	1.00
203 Home Depot	300.00	203 GlaxoSmithKline	20.00	194 Barium	1.00	203 Ecuadorian Dollar	1.00	203 Tablets	1.00
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STOCKS		BOND		COMMODITY		CURRENCY		FUTURES	
SYMBOL	PRICE	SYMBOL	PRICE	SYMBOL	PRICE	SYMBOL	PRICE	SYMBOL	PRICE
205 Apple	135.00	205 IBM	110.00	205 Gold	135.00	205 Euro	1.00	205 Soybean	1.00
206 Microsoft	120.00	206 GE	30.00	206 Silver	1.50	206 Yen	1.00	206 Corn	1.00
207 Amazon	150.00	207 Ford	10.00	207 Oil	20.00	207 Pound	1.00	207 Wheat	1.00
208 Google	250.00	208 GM	15.00	208 Natural Gas	1.00	208 Swiss Franc	1.00	208 Rice	1.00
209 Facebook	180.00	209 Chrysler	5.00	209 Copper	1.00	209 Japanese Yen	1.00	209 Sugar	1.00
210 Tesla	200.00	210 Daimler	40.00	210 Nickel	1.00	210 Australian Dollar	1.00	210 Coffee	1.00
211 Netflix	450.00	211 Volkswagen	20.00	211 Zinc	1.00	211 Canadian Dollar	1.00	211 Tea	1.00
212 Disney	110.00	212 Airbus	100.00	212 Lead	1.00	212 New Zealand Dollar	1.00	212 Cotton	1.00
213 Nike	80.00	213 Boeing	150.00	213 Tin	1.00	213 Hong Kong Dollar	1.00	213 Lumber	1.00
214 Coca-Cola	45.00	214 Lockheed	30.00	214 Platinum	1.00	214 Singapore Dollar	1.00	214 Paper	1.00
215 McDonald's	25.00	215 General Electric	12.00	215 Palladium	1.00	215 Taiwan Dollar	1.00	215 Hides	1.00
216 Walmart	55.00	216 Honeywell	18.00	216 Indium	1.00	216 South Korean Won	1.00	216 Wool	1.00
217 Target	140.00	217 Johnson & Johnson	150.00	217 Cadmium	1.00	217 Indian Rupee	1.00	217 Rubber	1.00
218 Home Depot									

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## SPORT

Golf: Professional learning curve is proving a steep one for teenager who passed his Open test with flying colours

# Graduate Rose goes back to school

BY ANDY FARRELL

GIVE TALENT the chance to perform without pressure and even on the greatest stage wonderful things can happen. Justin Rose showed exactly that at the Open. To finish fourth, the highest placing by an amateur for 45 years, was a brilliant achievement. Now for something completely different.

This morning, at the Nick Faldo-designed Chart Hills course near Biddenden in Kent, Rose starts the gruelling marathon that is the Qualifying School. This is one of sport's hardest schools. Around 600 players have entered, only 35 will get their tour cards giving them the right to play on the European tour next season.

It could take anything up to 12 rounds to achieve. The first stage, known as PQ1, takes place this week at five venues around the country. At each site 120 players will compete over 54 holes for around 10 spots into the finals in southern Spain in November.

Those that fail will go on to PQ2 in Spain in October for another three rounds. The finals themselves are played out over six rounds. Among the 180 players who tee off will be experienced pros who have failed to retain their cards from the main tour, those who make an annual pilgrimage but return to the mini-tours and regional PGA events, as well as those just starting out on their professional careers.

The 72-hole cut, which slices the field down to around 70, must be

## PRO AND CONS

In his six events as a professional, Justin Rose has missed the cut each time.

Dutch Open	missed by 1
Scandinavian Masters	missed by 1
European Open	missed by 2
BAN International	missed by 7
European Masters	missed by 7
British Masters	missed by 5
80 70	

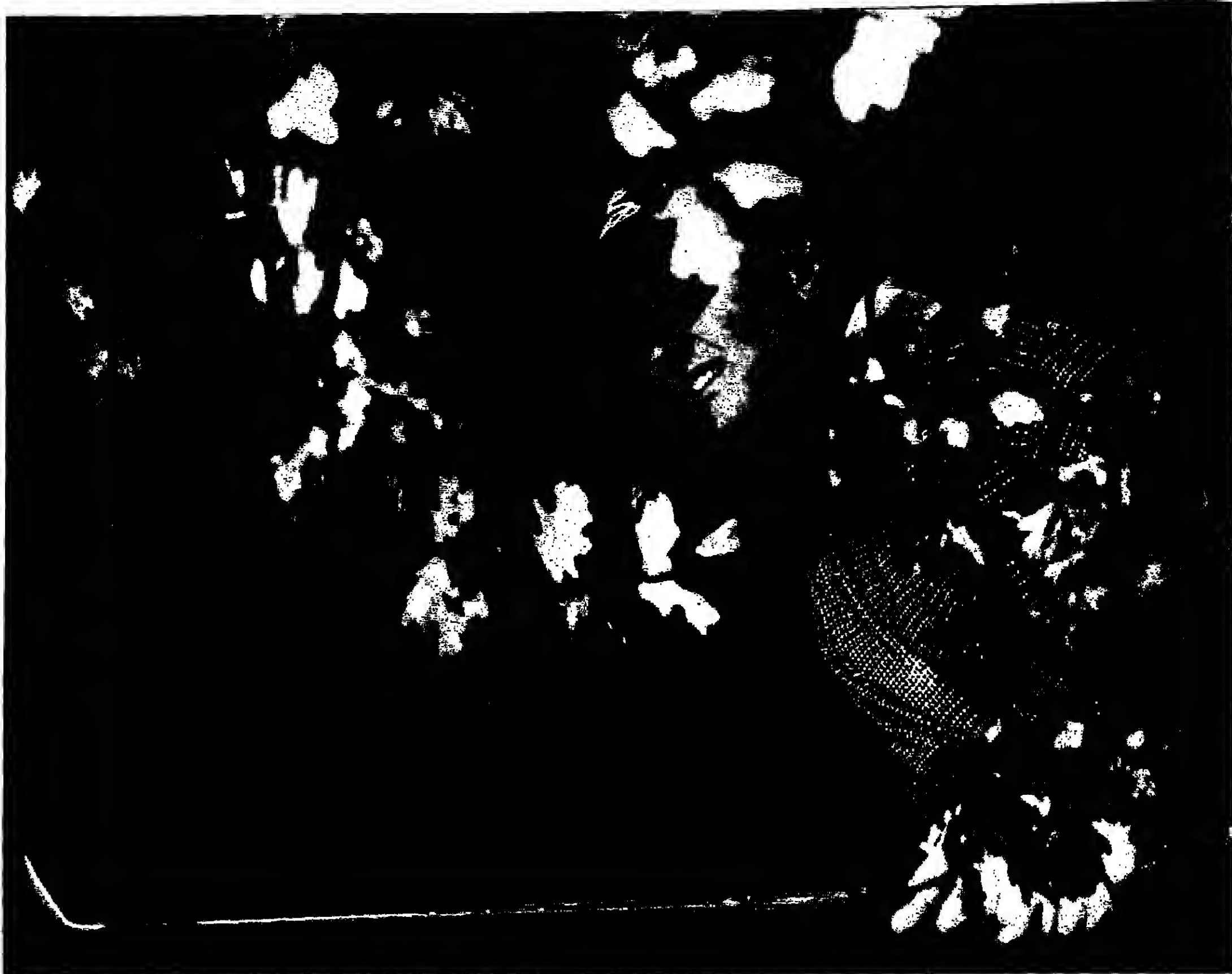
made or nothing has been gained but a few mental scars. For those that remain but fail to get into the top 35, there is the consolation of a place on the Challenge Tour, where you can gain experience if not money.

Those at the top of the game, the ones battling out the great championships, still refer back to the 'Q' School and the early days on tour trying to make a cut - those who do not qualify after 36 holes do not receive a cheque - as the most pressure-filled times of their careers.

Rose has had a swift introduction. In his six tournaments as a professional, he has not yet played four full rounds. He has found out that when making the cut becomes your target, it is one that suddenly becomes elusive. Co-incidentally Raymond Russell, the Scottish professional who also tied for fourth place at Birkdale, has yet to make a cut since either.

This was not the case when Rose finished 44th at the Benson and Hedges International in May. He would also have sailed past the cut at the European Grand Prix in June had the tournament not been washed out by rain. Those performances had planted the seed in Rose and his family's minds of turning pro should he make the cut at the Open.

That Birkdale turned into so much more made the decision inevitable. It is hard to believe that it was a performance Rose will never repeat again, but his one advantage over many of the pros was his amateur experience of playing tough links courses in strong winds. For a start, the publicity assured Rose of gaining the



Rose among the thorns again. The teenager has found that missing fairways has been one of his biggest problems since he made the decision to turn professional

maximum of seven allowed invitations on the tour. Should he have earned around £50,000 and finished in the top 116 on the order of merit, there would have been no need of going to the Qualifying School.

Although he has one more invitation left, it looks like the easier route has been closed. "I always knew I had two chances," Rose said. "I knew it would be difficult to win the amount of money I needed from seven tournaments. In 20 years hopefully I'll look back and nobody will be able to say I didn't do it the hard way."

Now, though, it is crunch time. "This is more important than anything I have played so far," he said of PQ1. He has visited Chart Hills twice to familiarise himself with the venue. "It is a good test of golf but a fair test and that is all you can ask of a qualifying course."

Inevitably, Rose's confidence has taken a hit but he remains positive. "However disappointed you feel inside, you cannot show it on the outside," he said. "There are always positives, you just have to look hard enough for them. I am a stronger player than I was at the Open. You become a better player by going through the lows. It is difficult to put

your finger on why I haven't played well. I don't feel any different. I may be a professional but I am the same golfer."

Mentally, Rose admits to wandering a bit on the course and his driving has the same tendency. His percentage of fairways hit is too low. That does not mean he is in the trees all day. On a course like the Forest of Arden, where the straight-hitting

Colin Montgomerie won for the second time on Sunday, the fairways are narrow and to stray just a few feet off them is to find thick rough.

Did Rose, who turned 18 two weeks after the Open, leave the amateur ranks too young? In America, he would have gone to college on a scholarship for three or four years. Matt Kuchar, who starred at the US Masters and the US Open, thought

about turning pro but then decided to finish his last two years at university. Sergio Garcia, the 18-year-old British Amateur champion who finished joint 12th in the British Masters, will stay amateur until next April's US Masters.

Rose, the youngest to play in the Walker Cup at 17 last year, clearly felt he had learnt enough. Peter McEvoy, the England captain who almost

picked Rose for full international honours at the age of 14, felt he was too young, not just to play golf but to be a doctor or a policeman. The longevity of a golfing career is similar to non-sporting professions, and there is an apprenticeship to learn.

A year on the Challenge Tour, where only a handful do more than cover their costs in racing around Europe for low prize fund tourna-

ments, would be no bad thing. While disliked by British players who find it harder to get sponsorship than continentals, with the right backing the experience can be a rewarding one in terms of preparation for life on the main tour.

But to get on to the Challenge Tour is hard enough and those who don't get that far are left in the wilderness of mini-tours, where the players' entry fees provide the prize fund.

Golfing lore suggests that if you're good enough you'll make it eventually. It took Barry Lane, the Ryder Cup player, seven visits to the Qualifying School before establishing himself on tour. Others, like Jose Maria Olazabal and Lee Westwood, passed first time and never returned. Wherever Rose ends up playing next year, he should have backing. Carnegie, his management company, report interest in the South African-born, Hampshire-raised player has not diminished despite the start to his pro career. The current asking price for a club contract is £1.5m. Rose has tried not to get involved. "All that matters is what I do on the golf course," he said. "If you do well, everything else takes care of itself."

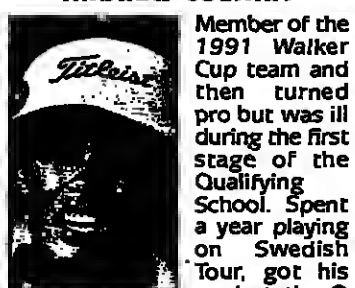
## FOUR AMATEURS WHO STRUGGLED TO MAKE THE GRADE

### GORDON SHERRY



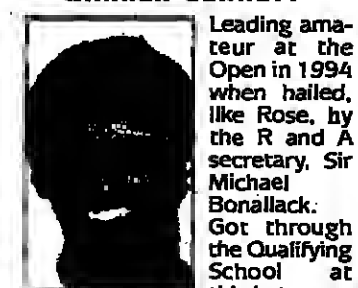
British Amateur champion in 1995 when he also starred in GB & Ireland's Walker Cup victory over the Americans and finished joint fourth in the Scottish Open at Carnoustie.

### ANDREW COLTART



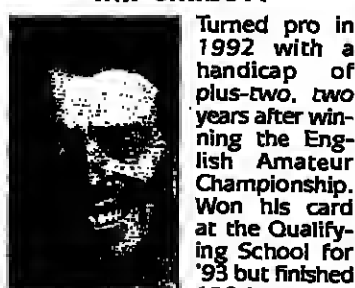
Member of the 1991 Walker Cup team and then turned pro but was ill during the first stage of the Qualifying School. Spent a year playing on Swedish Tour, got his card at the Q

### WARREN BENNETT



Leading amateur at the Open in 1994 when healed, like Rose, by the R and A secretary, Sir Michael Bonallack. Got through the Qualifying School at third attempt

### IAN GARBUTT



Turned pro in 1992 with a handicap of plus-two, two years after winning the English Amateur Championship. Won his card at the Qualifying School for '93 but finished 139th on the

# Emotions run high as Ferrari turn up heat

BY DERICK ALLSOP  
in Monza

TWO RACES to go, everything to play for and the contesting camps have taken over from their drivers as the struggle for the World Championship becomes a test of nerve as well as skill and reliability.

This nation is gripped by euphoria following Ferrari's one-two success in the Italian Grand Prix and Michael Schumacher's elevation to level points and wins with McLaren Mercedes' Mika Hakkinen. The Finn retains the lead only because he has two second places to Schumacher's one.

They resume racing combat at the Nurburgring, on Sunday week, but the off-circuit jousting is unre-

lenting and Jean Todt, Ferrari's sporting director, took the opportunity to apply a little more psychological pressure rather than wallow in the celebration and adulation.

"We've noticed every time we put McLaren under pressure it's gone well for us," Todt said. "McLaren were a bit quicker than us here and I think they still are, but they did not take advantage or use the potential of the car. Everything is open in the Championship now. Emotions here mean nothing. We have to live with reality and the reality is that Michael has six wins. I don't know when that was last done in a season by a Ferrari driver."

The answer is 1962, the driver Alberto Ascari. Schumacher, too, won-

dered aloud whether Hakkinen would survive the heat. "We make things difficult for him and keep him under pressure," the German said. "I'm not saying he is going to crack, but it was easier for him in the early part of the season. Now mistakes are more likely. He's been a good racing driver this season but we will see how he copes in the two races left."

Hakkinen, who has lost a 16 point advantage in the last three Grands Prix, admitted he was "nervous" and anxiety showed on the faces of his colleagues.

However, Ron Dennis, the McLaren team principal, made a defiant retort and an effort to restore confidence after their wretched race. David Coulthard's engine blew when he held a com-

fortable lead and Hakkinen, hampered by a brake problem, was lucky to salvage fourth place.

Dennis said: "If you can't take the heat you shouldn't be in the sport. These things happen. We're not wimps. Neither of our drivers is and we're going to fight all the way and put the pressure on them."

Schumacher is a highly talented and motivated driver but he's made mistakes this season and there's no reason why he won't make more mistakes. One spin from Michael or Mika in the next two Grands Prix can determine the World Championship.

"We're not walking away from Monza as losers, we're walking away leading the Constructors' Championship and equal in the Drivers' Championship. Let's deal

with facts and not the emotional situation."

"Obviously Ferrari's reliability is exceptional, but we're trying always to get a performance advantage. When you push things to the limit it's inevitable you stray into areas where unreliability can strike."

"Motor racing is not a sport for the faint-hearted. If you are fighting for the World Championship you've got to expect it to be difficult and that's what it is."

Schumacher will have home advantage and the added weight of expectation on Sunday week, but then so will Mercedes and Norbert Haug, the head of their Formula One operation, echoed Dennis's insistence they were not about to buckle. I feel really ashamed for what happened

to David," Haug said. "He came to me and apologised but I told him we're the ones who should apologise. Now the showdown is on and I can understand why Ferrari say we will crack, but the pressure will not break us. It is clear the problem we have had was technical, and no fault of the drivers. They made no mistakes, we did."

Damon Hill knows what it is like to be on the receiving end of Schumacher's pressure. He succumbed to it in 1994 and 1995, and is a captivated observer as his old adversary, aided by the former Benetton technical director, Ross Brawn, threatened to pull off a third title.

"The situation is unbelievable," said the Jordan driver, sixth on Sunday. "We all wrote off the Champion-

ship for anyone other than McLaren at the start of the season when they were having one-two. "Whatever has gone wrong I don't know, but you just can't give someone like Ross Brawn and Michael Schumacher the slightest whiff of anything, or else."

"I find it difficult to predict the outcome of the Championship but, although McLaren might have the advantage in machinery, you would have to say Ferrari have now got the edge in morale and that can go a long way."

The Championship can be decided at the Luxembourg Grand Prix only if Hakkinen wins and Schumacher falls to score. The more likely scenario is a last race decider in Japan, on 1 November.

منذ ٢٠٠٠



# New Zealand take lead from golden Lomu

GARETH COOPER, Wales' 19-year-old scrum half, had a question for his coach Gerard John before yesterday's rugby sevens quarter-final against New Zealand: "If I am the last line of defence and Jonah Lomu runs at me, how do I stop him?"

That is a puzzle which has troubled more than one rugby player since the 1970s stone phenomenon emerged as a marauding menace to international defenders at the 1993 World Cup. England's Tony Underwood was famously unable to find an answer on that occasion; John was unable to provide one here.

"You can suggest tugging at his jersey, or going for his ankles," John said. "But if you can't touch him you can't get either his jersey or his ankles."

Thirty seconds into the second half of New Zealand's 38-14 win, Cooper's feared scenario came to pass. In the circumstances, Lomu's decision to body swerve rather than ram his way to the line counted as a humanitarian gesture.

By the end of a steamy night of superlative competition, the mountainous man of Tongan parentage was topless and jubilant after leading New Zealand to the first Commonwealth rugby title with a 21-12 win over the world sevens' champions, Fiji. There was only one immediately appropriate way to celebrate - the haka.

So patently delighted were the All Blacks, whose morale had taken a hit with their recent Tri-nations defeats, that they performed the ritual dance a second time for the benefit of their supporters on the other side of the Petaling Jaya Stadium.

New Zealand, whose 93-0 win over the Bahamas the previous day, including 15 tries, established a world record in 14-minute sevens,

## RUGBY UNION

BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM  
in Kuala Lumpur

had struggled to come through their semi-final against Samoa 19-14, but - one Seve-inspired try for Fiji apart - they never allowed their old rivals to dominate.

The world champions themselves had endured a worrying time in the quarter-finals, where they needed a late try to defeat Canada 26-19. That result must have made the Welsh feel better about the previous day's 45-7 defeat by Canada, a result which had caused much ululation in the Valleys.

There were mutterings about the fact that a team of highly-paid professionals, pretty much the strongest Wales could muster, had performed so wretchedly. But yesterday's effort, which followed a team crisis meeting, marked a vast improvement.

The Welsh had been together for two weeks beforehand. The Canadians - recruited from the rugby academy which has been operating in Victoria for the last couple of years - had played and trained together for seven weeks before the games, and their organisation and team spirit had clearly benefited. The lesson there is hardly a difficult one to draw.

England's interest in the tournament, predictably, was ended by a young Australian side marshalled by the 36-year-old David Campese, the man whose late intervention - a knock on which many thought was deliberate - effectively ended England's hopes in the final of the 1991 World Cup. With characteristic tact, Campese had described the team England sent to these Games - drawn largely from the lower divisions - as a "disgrace". A "Ling dis-

grace" to be accurate. And he did nothing to soften the approach with his performance, scoring and converting the try which gave Australia a 14-7 lead on the way to a convincing 49-14 victory.

Mike Friday, the Wasps' scrum half who was the only First Division player on show for England, distinguished himself with his creative running and last-ditch tackling - but he was marooned alone often enough to be Man Friday.

Campese's criticism was unfounded, given that the Rugby Football Union only allows England to have club players for eight weekends in a year, and that quota had been used up in service of the 15-man game. Those representing the flag here were, on the admission of their coach Andrew Harriman, whose inspired wing play won England the inaugural World Sevens Cup in 1993, a scratch team.

But, unlike England's cricketers, they could at least say they had turned up. And they performed creditably to the limits of their ability, even though they were lacking a player of Harriman's pace to put the points on the board. Nevertheless Nick Baxter, who played for Worcester in the Third Division last year, rose to the challenge with some surging runs which brought him two outstanding tries.

As his Australian team celebrated the 31-12 win over Samoa which earned them the bronze medal Campese, who had slowed the game down masterfully in the closing minutes, skipped like a lamb. This, he announced afterwards, was his last match in an Australian jersey after an international career that began in 1982.

The career he will choose to pursue now will not, one can safely say, be a diplomatic one.



New Zealand's Jonah Lomu powers through the Fijian defence in yesterday's final. Reuters

## S Africans surprise Australia

### HOCKEY

BY BILL COLWILL

ALTHOUGH ENGLAND were not directly involved in games in the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur yesterday, there was plenty of English interest in the first major upset of the men's competition. South Africa, who had never beaten Australia before, beat the favourites for the gold medal 3-2 in a game well umpired by England's Keith Roper.

England's interest did not stop there. The South African goals were scored by players who featured in the English National League last season, the first falling to Greg Nicol (Surrey), the second to Murray Anderson (St Albans) and the third to Justin King (Chelmsford).

Earlier in the day both countries had accused the Games organisers of arranging the fixtures to aid the host country's team. This was denied by the secretary of the Malaysian organising committee.

The English team was continued in the Wales versus India game when the Indian captain, Dhanraj Pillay, who used to play for Indian Gymkhana, opened the scoring in the sixth minute as his team went on to beat Wales 6-3 in a game in which Wales fought hard to hold the Asians. Simon Organ converted two penalty corner goals with his third attempt providing his captain David Hacker with a follow-up.

In the women's competition, Scotland won their third match, 2-1 against Trinidad and Tobago, keeping their semi-final hopes alive. They are three points behind the leaders, Australia and India, who both won their games yesterday and play each other tomorrow.

Scotland exerted endless pressure and, after several missed chances, their captain, Pauline Robertson, opened the scoring in the eighth minute with a clean shot from the edge of the circle.

Against the run of play Trinidad and Tobago won the only penalty corner of the half and Nicole Dixon converted. Within four minutes Scotland were in the lead again through Rhona Simpson. Scotland won 10 penalty corners in the second half, but failed to add to their tally.

# Malaysia gain vengeance

IT WOULD be trite to say that badminton has become the lightning of Nector for Britain's imperial past in Malaysia, but a whiff of friction hung over the courts at the Cheras stadium in Kuala Lumpur yesterday which had nothing to do with the controversial air-conditioning system. Malaysia and England have habitually turned the badminton tournament at the Commonwealth Games into a confidential business.

By right, England win the team event - no one else had done so since 1978 - and Malaysia retaliate with gold in the men's singles. But Malaysia wanted a golden return on their investment in these Games and badminton is their national sport. So the traditional format of the mixed team event, which emphasised England's relative strength in the women's events, was discarded in favour of separate events for men and women. As the president of the Malaysian Badminton Federation doubles up as

## BADMINTON

BY ANDREW LONGMORE

the defence minister, no one felt inclined to cry "fix".

Yesterday, the Malaysians duly gained revenge for decades of injustice by taking the gold in the men's event, while it was left for the women to uphold England's honour with an equalising gold. That the two events were staged on courts alongside each other and were played to a peculiar round robin format rather than a straight knockout in the final stages only added to the confusion of a sweet and sour day.

Until the flag of St George was raised to the rafters accompanied by Land of Hope and Glory, no one seemed quite certain about the destiny of the women's gold. It was left largely to the second doubles pairing of Joanne Davies, four days after her 26th birthday, and Sara Sankey, two weeks shy of her 31st,

to work it out for themselves. They did so in some style, annihilating their Indian opponents in 32 minutes for the loss of just seven points.

A complicated countback system ensured England of gold ahead of Malaysia, who were thrashing Australia on a neighbouring court, and rendered the final singles, lost by Rebecca Pantaney, eerily redundant. Though no one in the England camp cared to complain too vociferously, the tournament deserved a cleaner-cut finish.

England completed a unique double by losing their last tie, their only defeat of the tournament, and still winning gold. The sadness for them was that the celebration of overall victory was lost in the instant of a disappointing defeat. "We wanted to run onto the court and bug each other, but it didn't seem right when we'd lost," Sankey said. "We'll leave our celebrations till tonight." Heads might be clearer then.

Neither did the mood of depression in the men's ranks encourage delirium. Two defeats on the final day, by India before lunch and Malaysia at tea-time, relegated the defending team champions to an ignominious bronze. The psychological warfare waged on the hosts by Park Joong Bong, Korean coach of the team, backfired spectacularly.

After parrying an attempt by the home team to turn off the air conditioning inside the Cheras stadium, Park had vociferously and unwisely championed the ability of England to upset the clear favourites in the final stages.

If Park thought that might instill some confidence into his team, he was rudely shaken. Only the doubles pairing of the Robertsons, Nathan and Julian, no relation, had the mental strength to offer any more than token resistance to the irresistible combination of the Malaysians on court and their raucous beflagged supporters in the stands.

## Thorpe has the world at his feet

TOMORROW THE "Thorpedo" launches his second attack on a world record, writes James Parrack.

The latest boy wonder of world swimming is the 15-year-old Australian, Ian Thorpe. In January, aged 14, he became the youngest ever world champion - and has since become a phenomenon. He is 6ft 4in and weighs 14 stone, but it is what he stands on that makes him unique. He has size 16 feet.

Cyrano De Bergerac's nose drew the eye and, in the same way, it is hard to avert the gaze from Thorpe's feet. Last Saturday they powered him to within one hundredth of a second of the oldest men's world record, the 200 metres freestyle.

Tomorrow in the 400 metres, Thorpe lines up with Olympic champion Danyon Loader and his team-mate Grant Hackett, second to Thorpe at this year's World championship, to do battle for Commonwealth gold and the chance to set a new world record. Thorpe's best is 3:46.29 and he has to break the 3:43.80 set by Kieren Perkins in 1994. It would be quite a feat but Thorpe's improvement has been awesome.

In the 1996 Australian Nations he won every event in his age group. When he turned 14 he won an unprecedented 10 age group gold medals, all in state record times - and the following January he found himself world champion.

Doug Frost, his coach at Milper, New South Wales, said: "To be as good as he is at this age only means he is going to get better. How good he can be is anybody's guess."

## Horner rallies to snatch silver

ENGLAND CLAIMED two more silver medals and a bronze in another rousing session for the team last night - and Vicki Horner nearly caused the upset of the Games so far when she staged a highly dramatic comeback over the final 50 of the women's 400 metres freestyle.

Fourth for much of the race, few gave the Newcastle-born 22-year-old much chance. But two months of hard work before these games paid off as Horner broke down the lead.

Storming to the finish, she removed three seconds from her best time to take the silver medal in 4:12.56 seconds. The experienced Australian Susan O'Neill had just enough left, winning by just 0.17 sec. "I'm speechless," said an overwhelmed Horner, words pouring out of her. "With 75 metres to go I was saying 'pick up, pick up' and I felt myself getting stronger. In a close race, you don't respect anyone's reputation and I thought I might even win it."

Success continued in the men's 100 freestyle when Gavin Meadows ruined an expected Australian sweep to claim bronze, with a best time of 50.14 sec. The top two Australians, Michael Kim and Chris Fidler, both broke under the 50 seconds barrier with 49.43 and 49.51 respectively.

"I couldn't see the scoreboard, but I could hear the English cheering and I thought I must have gone under 50 seconds. But I didn't know if I'd won a medal or not. The time doesn't really matter here; a sub 50 seconds will make later."

Still not quite at the top yet, his desire to be the best freestyler in the world is indicative of the confidence that is now growing in the English team.

In winning the consolation final, Scotland's Bryan Morgan upset his more fancied English rivals by setting the second Scottish record of the day in a time of 50.88 sec.

England's second silver came in the women's 4x100 freestyle relay. With Sue Rolph and Karen Pickering in the team, expectation was high. In a tightly-fought race, Australia were pushed to a new Commonwealth record and England set a new British record. Once again Susan O'Neill denied England's hopes of gold as she collected her fourth gold of the Games. She is on course for an unprecedented six gold medals.

But there was disappointment for Adam Ruckwood, the defending champion in the 200m backstroke, when he failed to make the final by just one hundredth of a second. A devastated Ruckwood was at a loss to explain his lack of strength in the latter stages of the race. Fractionally faster in the evening, he will go home to a long period of reflection and reassessment.

Canada's Mark Versfeld broke Australia's run of ten straight gold medals, winning the event unchanged in a time of 1:59.07. The refrain of 'Advance Australia fair' was threatening to become repetitive. In a warm up for her favoured 200m metres backstroke, Helen Don-Duncan finished seventh in the 100m and Sarah Price came eighth.

COMMONWEALTH GAMES RESULTS	
<b>BADMINTON</b>	
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<b>TENPIN BOWLING</b>	
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<b>MEDAL TABLE</b>	
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<b>TODAY'S SCHEDULE AND TV COVERAGE</b>	
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<b>TELEVISION</b>	
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<b>GYMNASTICS</b>	
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<b>TOMORROW</b>	
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## Atherton settles for second

ANDREW ATHERTON had to settle for silver in the gymnastics individual competition. The 22-year-old, who was instrumental in England's team victory at the weekend, led the men's overall final after three rotations, but his dreams of a historic golden double disappeared after a heavy fall during his dismount from the parallel bars and an error-strewn floor programme. Australia's Andrei Kravtsov took the gold.

Martin Millar and David Calvert opened Northern Ireland's medal account in style, by winning the gold in the men's pairs full-bore rifle event.

Millar and Calvert scored 585 points, just pipping the Canadian pair, who clocked up 583, and David Davies and Chris Hockley, who

claimed Wales' first medal of the Games, scoring 580 for the bronze. Pauline Buck and Richard Hood won a silver medal for England in the tempin bowling mixed doubles. It was Buck's second medal of the Games as she won the bronze with Gemma Burden in the women's doubles.

England's Paul Johnson upset the No 3 seed Rodney Eyles of Australia 9-1, 10-8, 9-2 and advanced to the semi-finals of the squash tournament. Johnson, seeded sixth, now meets the No 1 seed, Scotland's Peter Nicol, who beat the Englishman Mark Chaloner 9-5, 9-3, 9-3.

The under-strength world champions Sri Lanka won through to the cricket semi-finals in a tight finish against Zimbabwe. The Sri Lankans seemed to have the match wrapped up in the 46th over when chasing Zimbabwe's total of 285 - they needed just three runs to win with three wickets left. Zimbabwe's seamer Heath Streak then took two wickets in successive balls but he could not achieve the hat-trick and Indika De Saram knocked off the runs needed.

India play Australia, Pakistan meet New Zealand and South Africa tackle Barbados in matches which will decide the other semi-finalists. Sri Lanka will play the winner of South Africa v Barbados.

Thursday's 100 metres final is set to feature Ato Boldon of Trinidad and Tobago and Obadele Thompson of Barbados - the two fastest men in the world this year.

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**VERDICT:** A very difficult race with Rite solid form to latch on to. **GREENAWAY** RAY was unlikely long there, either.

07/11/2020

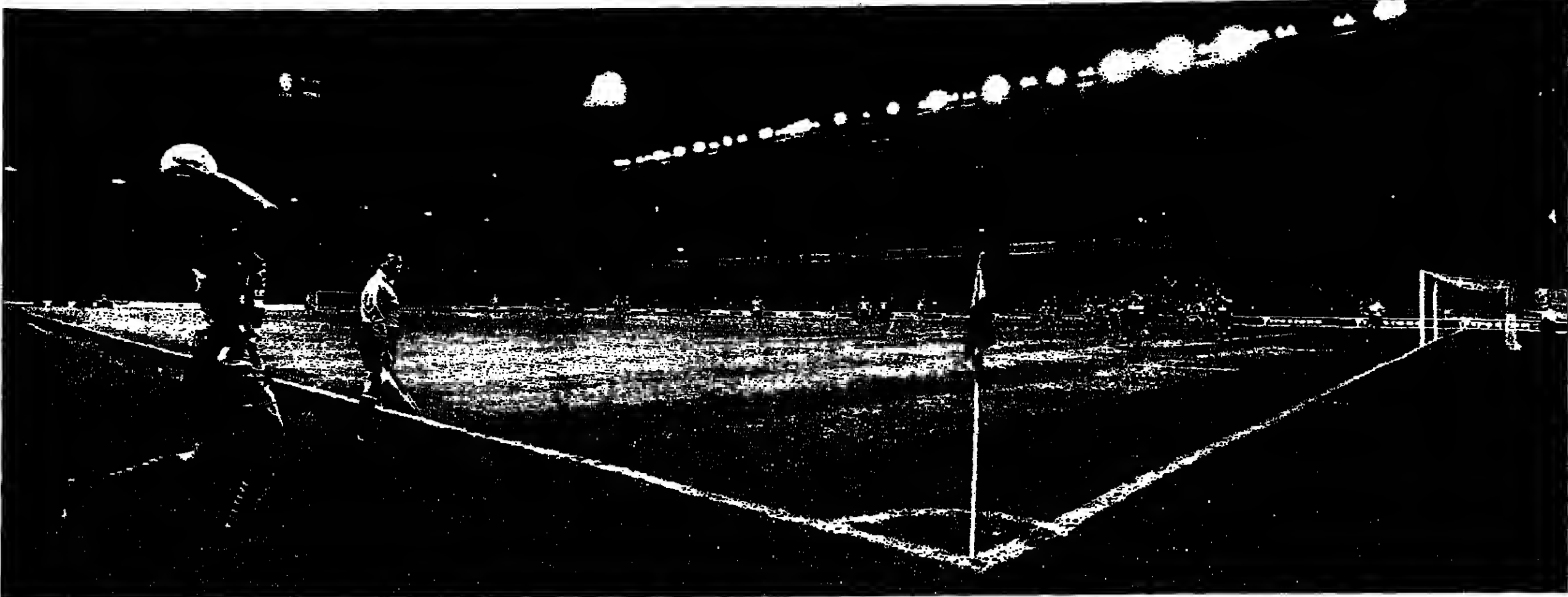






Champions' League: Wenger's established, big-city Arsenal take on the small-town, ambitious newcomers of Lens

# The odd couple's meeting of minds



Lens' concrete-and-glass pastiche of Highbury where their president, Gervais Martel (below left), sits in the dug-out while their unconventional-looking coach, Daniel Leclercq (centre), prowls the touchline David Ashdown

TOMORROW NIGHT, the most French of British clubs will play the most British of French clubs in the Champions' League.

The meeting between Arsenal and Racing Club de Lens – the first game in the Champions' League for both clubs – is a whirlpool of cross-channel cultural influences. Arsenal have a French manager and five French players; Lens have a stadium which is a concrete-and-glass pastiche of Highbury. Arsenal fans who make the journey might feel more at home away in the Pas de Calais than they do when playing home European games away at Wembley.

The Lens supporters, the most noisy and emotional in France, incorporate the British flag in their red and yellow banners. No one can remember quite why but it seems to be an attempt to claim kinship with the Anglo-Saxon game, both in passion and style.

On the surface there are few other similarities between Arsenal and Racing Club de Lens. The

BY JOHN LICHFIELD

Gunnars are the wealthiest and most successful club in one of the largest cities in the world. The *Scng et Or* (blood and gold) won the French championship last year for the first time. Lens, 50 miles from the Channel Tunnel, is smaller than Macclesfield or Stevenage. It has a population of 35,000. The Stade Félix Bollaert holds 42,000 people, 20 per cent more than the town which it dominates (alongside a couple of slag-heaps, left to commemorate the defunct local industry).

But these statistics are misleading. Lens, in French terms, are a big club, with the third highest average gates in the country and a catchment area of nearly two million people. The club's clever, abrasive president, Gervais Martel, 44, is a local free-newspaper millionaire. His ambition is to build Lens into one of the great European sides. He has hired the firm who built the Manchester United superstore to work the same merchandising miracle for Lens.

The shop – *L'Univers des Song et Or* – opened five weeks ago and has already had to increase its staff from four to 19.

Although weakened by injuries and close-season depredations, Racing Club will be no pushover tomorrow night. They have two of the best French players NOT to be included in the World Cup-winning squad: Tony Vairelles, a fast, tricky left-sided striker, and Frédéric Delu, a sweeper or defensive midfielder in the style of Emmanuel Petit. (Both have been picked for France squads since the World Cup.)

Racing also have a pacey, experienced and wily goal-scorer in the Czech international Vladimir Smicer, who is now paired up front with the powerful Pascal Nouma, a close-season signing from Strasbourg. But Vairelles is the great, local hero. Although nominally a left-winger, he often drifts into the penalty area to score powerful or opportunistic goals. One whole section of the stadium at the Stade Félix Bol-

laert has been colonised by his fan club, who call themselves the "Tony Boys".

Lens, like Arsenal, have had an indifferent start to the season. They lie in eighth place after losing two

league games in their first five (including by 2-0 at Monaco last Thursday when Nouma was sent off after only 22 minutes). They are sorely missing their long-serving captain, and central defender, Jean-Guy

Wallemme, transferred to Coventry City, and their attacking midfielder Marc-Vivien Foé, still not recovered from the leg injury which blocked his transfer to Manchester United.

Lens play an attractive 4-3-3 – often more like 4-1-2-3, with Delu as a kind of advanced sweeper. Their unconventional-looking manager, Daniel Leclercq, combines a Keegan-like commitment to attack with a taciturn, almost depressive, manner which makes Kenny Dalglish look jovial.

It is difficult to image a starker contrast between the two French managers in contention tomorrow night: the urbane, academic Arsène Wenger and the dishevelled, Leclercq, with his rumpled anorak, care-lined face and unruly wisps of blonde hair.

A local man and an inspirational Lens player in his youth, Leclercq fell out of the game altogether, becoming a village football and tennis coach, before returning as youth trainer and then – with spectacular

success – first-team coach last year. He and the president make an odd couple during matches. The expensively-dressed Martel insists on sitting in the dug-out, with a permanent scowl on his face; Leclercq, resembling a down-and-out, anxiously prowls the touch-line.

Appearances are misleading. Leclercq is an inspirational leader and a considerable tactician. He is a passionate football man but he constantly betrays a sadness with the importance placed on football these days.

"It will be tough for us this year because everyone will be playing against the champions of the country which won the championship of the world," Leclercq said. "We are not Paris or Marseilles or Monaco. We don't brag. I've been going around calming people down. We don't want to make a mountain out of all this. The important thing is the game and the pleasure that comes from the game."

Martel's long-term game plan also requires a victory.



## Harmony eludes Rovers

TO DESCRIBE the last time Blackburn Rovers got into Europe as unfortunate would be to downplay the experience. Tetchy to the point where Graeme Le Saux and David Batty were trading blows and Colin Hendry was sent off in icy Moscow, they finished bottom of their Champions' League group and did little for the image of English football.

It would be nice to report a more harmonious atmosphere as they approach tonight's UEFA Cup first round first leg game against Lyons but, sadly, problems seem to be mounting at Ewood Park. Blackburn are in the Premiership's relegation places and cracks in their composure are appearing over Tottenham Hotspur's prolonged pursuit of their captain, Tim Sherwood.

Yesterday Sherwood's representative, Eric Hall, said on television an increased offer of £5m would be forthcoming from White Hart Lane, which provoked an indignant response from Blackburn's manager Roy Hodgson. "It's not a matter of bids being refused," he said, "He's not for sale and I find it disturbing and unsporting that an agent is forcing me

BY GUY HODGSON

to talk about the subject on the eve of an important European tie.

"Our position remains the same, we are not interested in an approach. I've had a 30 second conversation with David Platt in which he told me Tottenham would go to a certain price or else forget it. I replied 'Great, because we are not interested in any offer you make'."

Sherwood, who signed a contract in January that would keep him at Blackburn until 2002, has said he does not want to move but was disgruntled yesterday that the matter was being aired. "This is an internal dispute," he said. "And, no, it's not been sorted out."

If Blackburn were playing well, the issue could be dismissed as a beneficial outlet of creative tension but the team have under-performed miserably since the turn of the year, winning just six League matches and losing 13. On Saturday they were abject, losing 3-0 to Sheffield Wednesday while creating only one chance – and that was gifted to them. "By our standards we were awful,"

Chris Sutton admitted yesterday.

Lyons, by comparison, are on the crest of a wave in second place in the French League. Last season in this competition, they defeated Internazionale 2-1 in Milan before losing narrowly in the second round. Their principal striker, Alain Cavaglia, has scored more goals than anyone else still playing in France, while Marco Grassi played under Hodgson for Switzerland.

To further underline the size of Blackburn's task, Kevin Gallacher, who has scored both their goals this season, has a calf injury and might not play while Damien Duff is definitely out with a thigh strain and Martin Dahlin has a stomach bug.

More importantly, Blackburn will be going into the tie relatively short of knowledge. Matches at Tottenham on Wednesday and Hillsborough at the weekend prevented Hodgson, whose last European match was the UEFA Cup final with Inter in 1997, travelling to France. "This is the first time I have been in a European tie without seeing the opposition," he said, "and that disturbs me. But I know we are playing a top-class side."

LIVERPOOL WERE dealt a blow on the eve of their European campaign with their captain, Paul Ince, ruled out of tonight's UEFA Cup first round first leg game at the Slovakian champions, Kosice.

The Merseysiders flew out from Liverpool airport without their influential midfielder, who has been sent to specialists for a precautionary scan on a knee ligament injury.

However, the Liverpool co-manager Roy Evans has virtually admitted that Robbie Fowler will be involved. The striker's long fitness fight has been cloaked in secrecy but Fowler travelled with the squad and Evans said: "He's in the squad of 20 and I can name seven substitutes. He's got a good chance of being in that group."

But for Ince the news was not so good. He has been carrying an injury for some time but damaged it further in the 2-1 defeat at his old club, West Ham, on Saturday. It is the last thing that managerial duo of Evans and Gerard Houllier wanted after Liverpool lost their unbeaten record this season at Upton Park. Steve Harkness is standing by.

BY PAUL WALKER

Ince's England squad colleague Steve McManaman is likely to make the match against Kosice when Liverpool embark on their European adventure tonight, despite having been troubled by an Achilles injury for several weeks.

Liverpool expect to have Fowler on the bench for his first senior game since damaging cruciate knee ligaments in February. He has hit nine goals in four warm-up games, including a double hat-trick against a Wrexham XI last week.

Meanwhile, the Liverpool striker Sean Dundee has turned his back on the chance to join the French team, Auxerre. Dundee has yet to play for Liverpool's first team after a £2m move to Anfield from Germany's Karlsruhe in the summer.

Leeds United, who entertain the Portuguese side Maritimo, also in the UEFA Cup, tonight, will step up their interest in taking David Batty back to Elland Road if Newcastle United decide to sell their England midfielder.

The Leeds chairman, Peter Rids-

dale, said yesterday: "Batty is a player our manager George Graham admires. If George came to us and said he wanted him we would do our best to get him."

Batty's return to Leeds would prove popular with the club's fans who protested strongly when he was sold to Blackburn Rovers in October 1993 for £2.7m.

Another player on the way to Elland Road is the Portuguese goalkeeper Nuno Santos. Santos plays for Vitoria Setúbal and was in the national Under-21 side a couple of years ago. However, his contract is up and he wants to come to England.

Graham needs Nuno Santos to compete with Nigel Martyn because Mark Beesley is out for several months with an Achilles tendon injury. The player is expected to complete the deal today.

Graham, who led Arsenal to Cup-Winners Cup success in 1994, is confident his players will respond positively to European football. "I like pitting my wits against the European coaches and facing teams who are better than you. It gives me a buzz," he admitted.

## Israelis put Rangers on full alert

RANGERS' BIG-MONEY buys were given a warning yesterday that they will have to earn the right to a place in the side, as the coach Dick Advocaat asserted that reputations count for nothing.

Colin Hendry, Arthur Numan and Gabriel Amato are all excluded for tonight's UEFA Cup first round first leg game at Beitar Jerusalem. The German midfielder Jörg Albertz is unlikely to start due to poor form – and that could mean a chance for the likes of Craig Moore, Tony Vidmar, Ian Ferguson and Charlie Miller.

"I am not interested in someone's reputation. That doesn't count for me. What counts is watching a player, seeing what he is doing. That's what matters," Advocaat said. The Dutch coach, who spent £27m in the summer transfer market, claims the Israeli champions are a better side than PAOK Salonika, the Greek side beaten by his team in the qualifying round. "Beitar are a good team," he added. "It will be difficult but our plan must be to try and score a goal here."

Beitar's influential Hungarian midfielder Stefan Sallai is unlikely to play after a row with coach Dror Kashan. Sallai has been suspended from training after making it clear he would prefer a more forward role.

A positive result for Celtic tonight at Portugal's Vitoria Guimaraes in the same tournament will ease the pressure on Jozef Venglos, the club's coach, after a bad start to the season. He will have to manage without the Norwegian striker Harald Brattbakk, who was struck down by flu on Sunday. That should see a recall for Darren Jackson, with Tom Boyd, Henrik Larsson and Craig Burley all expected to shake off minor knocks to play.

Vitoria are also missing key personnel with the Brazilian Mario Theodore – one of half a dozen in their ranks – absent from a defence that conceded less goals than any other team in Portugal last year and doubts over Riva and Paulo Fonseca. But, with two more Brazilians, Gilmar and Edmilson, in attack and the veteran former Portuguese international playmaker Vitor Paneira directing operations from midfield, they will still present a formidable threat to a Celtic side that still has to find its form.

## Camacho lays down his terms for Spain job

SPAIN

SPAIN'S HARD-PRESSED football federation has turned to Jose Antonio Camacho in its increasingly desperate effort to appoint a successor to Javier Clemente.

Camacho is the second man to be offered the post of national coach since the departure of Clemente, who left the job last week after a shocking 3-2 defeat to Cyprus in a European Championship qualifier. The former Real Madrid defender and Espanyol coach has accepted the offer – but only on the condition that he can work free of interference.

The federation said last week any offer would be non-negotiable. It must now decide whether to go back on its word and accede to Camacho's demands – details of which were not made public – or refuse to budge and face embarrassment.

Camacho, who spent 16 seasons with Real Madrid and was capped 81 times by his country, left Espanyol in the summer to take charge at

Real. He lasted only 22 days at the Bernabeu, though, walking out after a row over backroom staff.

The federation's first choice to succeed Clemente was Luis Aragones, the veteran coach who left Real Betis during the summer, saying he was retiring from football altogether. The most experienced coach in Spain – he took charge of 611 Primera Division games – he said he was tempted by the offer but ultimately could not accept. It is believed that the imposition of Clemente's old coaching set-up was the stumbling block.

ARGENTINA

MARCELO BIELSA, the successor to Jose Antonio Camacho as the coach of the Spanish club Espanyol, has, like Camacho at Real Madrid, quickly moved on.

Bielsa was appointed Argentina's national coach last week. He replaces Daniel Passarella, who quit after his team were knocked out of the World Cup quarter-finals.

Bielsa, who spent just two months with Espanyol, will coach Argentina's senior team but will report to Jose Pekerman, who until recently was the youth and Under-21 coach but is now the technical director of all the national sides.

The Argentinian authorities hope Bielsa will be able to avoid the personality clashes which marred Passarella's authoritarian reign, in which he made plenty of enemies by imposing various rules, including bans on long hair, earrings and homosexuals.

The Buenos Aires media has speculated that one of Bielsa's first moves could be to call up the long-haired Real Madrid midfielder Fernando Redondo, who refused to play under Passarella.

Bielsa only played four matches in a short career as a professional footballer at the club side Newell's Old Boys. He has had more success as a coach, leading Newell's to the championship in 1991 and 1992 and doing the same for Velez Sarsfield last season.

AROUND  
THE WORLDBY RUPERT  
METCALF

COLOMBIA

LIKE THEIR South American rivals Argentina and Brazil, Colombia have appointed a new coach. Javier Alvarez, the coach of the provincial Colombian club Caldas, took over the national team last week.

"We have decided to risk a young

man, who has clear ideas about football and has demonstrated that he has character," Alvaro Fina, the Colombian football federation president, said. Alvarez has caused a stir by leading unfashionable Caldas to the top of the Colombian league.

Alvarez, 40, was chosen ahead of the former national coach Francisco Maturana, who led Colombia to the 1990 and 1994 World Cups, as the successor. Hernan Dario Gomez, Maturana is a candidate for the job of coach of Costa Rica.

BRAZIL

AFTER PROMISING supporters a refund if their team lost, Flamengo faced having to hand out a small fortune to more than 50,000 fans yesterday, after Sunday's 3-2 defeat by Portuguesa.

The club president, Kleber Leite, admitted he now had a massive logistical problem, but this is matched by his problems on the pitch after another bizarre weekend for Brazil's most popular club.

Leite made his unprecedented offer last week following a run of eight matches without a win in the league. If he thought things could only get better, he was wrong.

The team lost again, two Flamengo players were sent off, the general manager, Washington Rodrigues, ran on to the pitch to remonstrate with the referee – and the coach, Toninho Barroso, resigned after less than three weeks in charge.

Flamengo said last week that supporters who kept their tickets would be given refunds if Flamengo lost to Portuguesa. More than 52,000 turned up, compared with 791 for the previous home match – but many fans appeared not to be interested in refunds, though, as the terraces were strewn with turn-up tickets at the end.

Flamengo led 2-1 at one stage on Sunday, with Romario among the scorers, but fell apart when they had two players sent off, prompting Rodrigues to protest to the referee and Barroso to quit after failing to win any of his five games.







## SPORT

ROSE GOES BACK TO SCHOOL P24 • RESILIENT RAFTER P27

## Gregory troubled by Villa's vacant front line

DESPITE HIS team's three-point lead in the Premiership, John Gregory admitted yesterday that Aston Villa were missing Dwight Yorke and pledged to carry on spending.

Gregory, preparing for a Uefa Cup first round, first leg match at home to the Norwegians of Strømsgodset tonight, acknowledged that Villa's scoring capacity did not match their defensive capabilities. While anticipating that Paul Merson would be influential in correcting the imbalance, he promised not to rest on his laurels.

FOOTBALL  
BY PHIL SHAW

"I intend to keep strengthening the squad," Gregory said. "The great Liverpool side who won so many championships would always replace a couple of players. Arsène Wenger has done the same at Arsenal this year."

The Villa manager, who still has a transfer kitty of around £20m, is keeping the names of his targets to himself. Weekend reports suggested

he had tried to prise Alan Shearer from Newcastle, only to be told by Ruud Geulth that the England captain is not for sale. Shearer could take his pick of English, Spanish and Italian clubs, but Villa's apparent interest is an indication of the quality the former Wycombe manager wants to attract. Gregory confirmed Villa had been on the trail of Sweden's Fredrik Ljungberg, watching him as recently as last Thursday. "Our concern was whether he would get into the team. We pressed the pause button and he went to Arsenal."

After his injudicious comments in the wake of Yorke's departure to Manchester United - "If I'd had a gun, I'd have shot him" - Gregory was in conciliatory mood. "We're missing Yorke. I can't deny that. He gave us a hell of a lot going forward."

The prospect of the Champions' League was a key factor in Yorke's yearning for Old Trafford. "Playing for Trinidad & Tobago, he doesn't get the chance to perform before massive crowds at places like Juventus and Barcelona," Gregory said. "There are some big teams in the

Uefa Cup but it isn't quite the same." Villa are nonetheless anxious to enjoy another extended run after reaching the quarter-finals last spring. Being able to offer European football was a "selling point", according to Gregory, in wooing Alan Thompson from Bolton and Merson from Middlesbrough.

The former Arsenal player signed too late to be eligible tonight. In his absence - and that of Yorke, Savo Milosevic (also sold) and Stan Collymore (injured) from last year's campaign - Villa may deploy Ric-

cardo Scimeca as a striker. The centre-back has not scored in 70 games, yet a lack of options means Gregory either goes with Scimeca or gambles on a raw reserve such as Darius Vassell.

Strømsgodset lie ninth in the Norwegian League after a 4-0 defeat by Stabæk which took their goals against column to 58 in 22 matches. However, they possess Premiership experience in the former Chelsea defender Erlend Johnsen and the towering striker Jostein Flo, once of Sheffield United, and Gregory

believes they will raise their game just as Villa would in Madrid or Turin.

"We won't be taking this one lightly. We worked too hard to get into Europe to do that." He was referring to the run of nine wins in 11 matches following his appointment, a sequence Villa have carried over into the new season. So which was their priority, the Premiership or Europe? "We've got to look after our League form before we're masters of time, space and dimension," Gregory replied, tongue perhaps in cheek but ambitions there for all to see.

## Johnson criticises Kendall signings

THE EVERTON chairman, Peter Johnson, yesterday launched a vigorous attack on the club's former manager, Howard Kendall, as he responded to charges of "gross mis-management" levelled against him at yesterday's annual general meeting.

One shareholder claimed the board had spent £100m in 10 years turning the club "from champs to chumps" and had still not found a goalscorer.

Many of Kendall's buys are still at Everton, with Don Hutchison, John Spencer, Gareth Farrelly, Carl Tiler and Michael Madar in the squad.

Kendall made cut-price signings while the fans bayed for Johnson to give him more funds to stop the slide towards rele-

BY ALAN NIXON

gation, but Johnson claimed yesterday he did not trust him to spend money wisely.

"It would have been totally wrong of me to release the purse strings last year and you know that," Johnson said. "Did you want Howard to spend all of that money on the type of players he brought in last season? I think you would have been appalled."

Meanwhile yesterday, supporters' groups urged the Premier League to reject Uefa plans to grant wild card entries to the Champions' League. European football's governing body, whose taskforce met in Geneva yesterday, has suggested granting automatic

entry to past winners. However, a Campaign Against The Super League spokeswoman said: "We've fought against a breakaway league, but a wild-card system has the same drawbacks."

"Fans can't stomach the thought of some clubs getting special privileges. A wild card would give clubs like AC Milan guaranteed entry for several years even if they were relegated in Italy."

Two Juventus midfielders, the Frenchmen Zinedine Zidane and Didier Deschamps, were yesterday called in for questioning by a prosecutor looking into alleged use of banned substances in Italy's Serie A. Neither player would be specific about what they

told the Turin prosecutor, Raffaele Guariniello, but both admitted that use of creatine, a legal muscle-builder, was discussed.

The Port Vale manager, John Rudge, is set to sign the Rangers winger Steven Boyack. Boyack joined Vale for talks and training yesterday after being told he does not figure in the Ibrox first-team plans.

Celtic's outgoing chairman, Fergus McCann, and the club's general manager, Jock Brown, came under fire at a stormy annual general meeting yesterday. McCann, who is set to leave Parkhead after completing five years in charge, had to reject criticism that he is more interested in making money than making Celtic successful.

## Arcs of triumph in the pool



The 16-year-old Canadian swimmer, Kelly Stefanyshyn, is the last to touch the water as a heat of the women's 100 metres backstroke does a fair imitation of a line of plunging dolphins at the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. Stefanyshyn took silver in the final behind Australia's 15-year-old Giaan Rooney, who finished in 1min 02.43 sec. England's Sarah Price was seventh and Helen Don-Duncan came in eighth.

Reports, results, page 25; AFP

## Ferguson refuses to talk about Juve job

ALEX FERGUSON, the Manchester United manager, is refusing to be drawn on speculation that he has been targeted to manage the Italian giants Juventus.

A go-between acting on behalf of the Turin club has reportedly approached Ferguson to ask if he would be keen to succeed Marcello Lippi when he retires next summer.

However, Ferguson said: "I don't want to be drawn into things like that. We've got a big game against Barcelona on Wednesday and I don't want to distract from it."

The United chairman, Martin Edwards, said suggestions Ferguson would move to Italy are "a nonsense".

"We know Juventus very well and I know their vice-president, Roberto Betegge, well," Edwards said. "I'm absolutely certain that if there was anything in it I would have heard from Juventus."

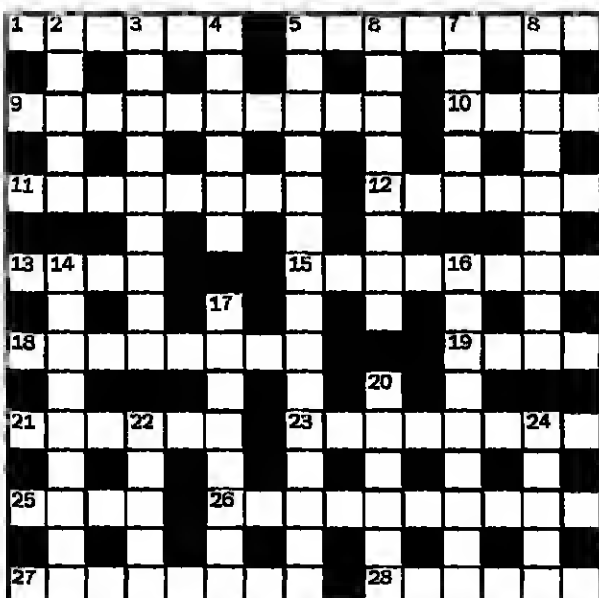
Lens effect, page 28

## THE TUESDAY CROSSWORD

No. 3716, Tuesday 15 September

By Aclred

Monday's Solution



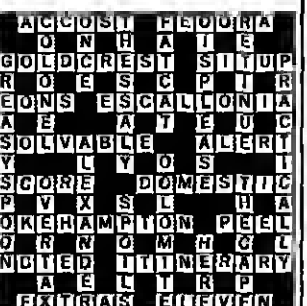
## ACROSS

- 1 Where you'll find students make temporary home going to America (6)
- 5 Con men I'm confusing with memory trick (8)
- 9 Woman with line wanted applied varnish (10)
- 10 Spot agent following enemy initially (4)
- 11 Debility subsequently seen in the continent (8)
- 12 Artist and doctor on the French walk (6)
- 13 Slightly burn the tea (4)
- 15 Boy unknown on boat of posh female (8)
- 18 Symbol of oppression used to be in a piece of equipment's back (8)
- 19 Very big game to be played (4)

- 21 Warning bell sounds like poison (6)
- 23 Order carrier in which to put paperbacks? (8)
- 25 Past deliveries to the Oval? (4)
- 26 Instrument used for surveying - shockingly be located it (10)
- 27 Sailors kiss in exalted part of Jersey (4, 4)
- 28 US state on flag (6)

## DOWN

- 2 A bit of power given to the man's a pest (5)
- 3 Fish and chips to be cooked with lard (9)
- 4 Blenishes of army seen in instances of wickedness (6)
- 5 Lance Baker could do this to get right away (4,1,5,5)



- 6 Rodeo lad could be found in place of fabulous wealth (2, 6)
- 7 Poem presented with hesitation in Roman theatre (5)
- 8 Forcing one member onto the Spanish heather (8)
- 14 Hoovers we used in any way possible (9)
- 16 Mark equivalent to half Costa Rican currency? (9)
- 17 Unusual vetting applied to European character sketch (6)
- 20 Robbery causes traffic congestion (4,2)
- 22 Endlessly wily little creature (5)
- 24 Fight in Somerset town (3,2)

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WE'D RATHER BUY THE GAME  
THAN THE CLUB.

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5

09/09/98



# TUESDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION



## Sayonara

The year Japan went west

**F**ly in over the vast Tokyo plain or look out from any of the city's tall buildings and you can see more economic activity being physically created than you could from any other point on the globe. You are not just looking at the homes, offices and factories of 30 million people – the largest collection of human beings in one place in the world. You are also looking at the largest single unit of the global economy, which produces between 3 and 4 per cent of the world's economic output. In all our homes there will almost certainly be something that has been made, designed or marketed in the Tokyo region: a camera, a TV set, a roll of film.

If however, you were to look across Tokyo last week, as I did, you would be looking at something else. You would be looking at the world's biggest recession. Japan's boom has gone horribly wrong.

In absolute terms, nowhere else is so much economic activity being lost so fast. We had the latest figures last Friday. In the April/June quarter the Japanese economy contracted at an annual rate of more than 3 per cent. It is now down three quarters in a row, for the first time since the Second World War, and there is absolutely no recovery in sight. Other countries – Thailand, Indonesia, Russia – may be heading down even faster, but they are tiny by comparison. Japan's economy is second only to that of the US. What happens there matters to all of us.

Yet the astonishing thing to the visitor is that you catch very little hint of the recession in the streets of Tokyo. With the exception of the civil servants, almost everyone I spoke to is extremely gloomy not just about the economy but, more generally, about Japan's place in the world. However, the physical fabric seems as glibly

as ever. The streets are crowded, the shops are full of people, everyone seems as busy as they did in the bubble years of the late Eighties. The surface looks the same; the real difference is inside – inside people's heads and inside the often-concealed balance sheets of the companies and banks.

The easiest way to understand this is to think of two British houses side by side. One is owned outright by someone in a secure job. The other is owned by someone who mortgaged to the limit at the peak of the boom and may now be made redundant. Assume house prices have fallen by half. The two houses look identical, but while the person in the first house may be disappointed by the loss of its value, the person in the second will be in despair. Much of Tokyo – businesses, banks and people – is in the position of owner number two. Debt crushes the spirit, but, until the lender forecloses, it is invisible.

So you see the physical fabric of the bubble years – in particular the glittering office blocks, the symbols of the success of Japanese corporations. What you don't see is the debt that paid for them. No one has a really accurate picture of the scale of indebtedness of many, maybe most, Japanese companies and banks for two reasons. One is that the published accounts are basically full of lies: assets put in at their cost rather than what they are worth now. The other is that, because Japanese companies own large chunks of each other's shares, any fall in the price of those shares is liable to pull another company down.

In the absence of decent data, the rumour-mills grind away. Among companies there are those that are sound and those that will probably need to be rescued or simply go bust.

If the company situation is worrying, the plight of the banks is worse. Among banks there are those that are rumored to be going bust any day now. Indeed it is actu-

ally possible that the whole banking system is bust, in the sense that the loans that will never be repaid are larger than the entire capital and reserves of the system.

It is quite hard to imagine that a business with a giant headquarters, thousands of workers, lines of black limos running squads of executives hither and thither, can actually be worth nothing. Sadly, for many Japanese banks this is true. They have taken in lots of money from depositors and then they have lost it.

This malaise and, in particular, this conflict between appearance and reality are reflected in day-to-day life. So while the stores are full of people, they aren't buying anything much, just walking around because there is not much else to do. There are, of course, pockets of activity. There is a boom in employment agencies for temporary workers. Lots of people have been laid off and are trying to get back into the

job market. And anyone in the discount business has been doing well. In a recession everyone is hunting for a bargain. But the odd discount store is not going to save Japan's economy. What is?

Step back and ask what has gone wrong. The core of the problem is that a system that worked very well for 35 years is no longer working. The system has been the closely controlled economy, with giant companies closely linked with giant banks pumping resources into exports. The governing bureaucracy – and in particular the two most powerful ministries, the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MITI) and the Ministry of Finance (the MoF) – has choreographed this economic triumph. People's savings were pumped into industrial investment, and, while they received a pretty dreadful return, industry boomed on the back of cheap funding. While Japan was

catching up with other developed countries this worked wonderfully well. Any mistakes were quickly overcome by the rapid growth. When, by the Eighties, Japan had caught up, instead of trying to switch from growth to profitability, the country behaved like the classic *nouveau riche*, throwing money at ludicrous investments.

The twin ministries still glower at each other across an eight-lane boulevard – Trade and Industry in a white tower, Finance in a squat grey block. But their reputation, particularly that of the MoF, has been shattered. The bureaucrats, who form a thoughtful, cultured, hard-working elite, are seen to have failed.

Why, I asked the man at MITI, did they not see this catastrophe coming? The nub of his answer was that they thought they had got through the recession and that they had a great 25-year plan for the next generation of growth industries. Main

Japanese cultural distinction between what is said and what is really meant. The business people I met had absolutely no hesitation in saying how alarmed they were about the economy, how they detested the bureaucrats and politicians and how they felt that Japan was approaching a revolution akin to that which swept through Britain under Margaret Thatcher.

In fact three people suggested to me that the coming revolution would be comparable with the Meiji revolution 130 years ago or with the creation of the present democratic system after the Second World War.

Too dramatic? Impossible to judge. What accounts for this cataclysmic view of the country is the fact that most Japanese can only remember success, so what is happening is entirely new. I had dinner with Masatoshi Ito, the founder of the Ito-Yokado group, one of Japan's two largest retailers. He is a lively septuagenarian who built up the group more or less from scratch after the war.

"Surely," I asked, "there must be some bright spots, some places where demand is all right?"

He shook his head. "Maybe when the bank rescues have been completed, but, at the moment, no."

If the bureaucrats attract much of the opprobrium for the collapse, the politicians catch the rest. "I've given up on politicians" and "I do not have a high regard for our politics" were two of the more measured comments from business leaders. They were principally referring to the Liberal Democrats, who have been in charge virtually non-stop since the mid-Fifties.

If there is a focus for hope it lies in the Democratic Party of Japan, which has now become the principal opposition party. The Democrats are led by Naoto Kan, a telegenic 51-year-old. Some people see him and, just as importantly, the people round him, as the great hope for Japan. He looks the part, has been dubbed "Japan's Tony

Blair" and is of a completely different generation from the gerontocracy of the LDP. I went to a party meeting at which the words "reform" and "bold" kept sprouting, but I do not really think anyone at the stage knows how strong the zeal is to take the very tough decisions that will have to be taken – like, for starters, do you make bank depositors suffer as well as bank shareholders? If not, then the present "muddle through and hope that something turns up" strategy will continue.

Muddling through has strong attractions. If only, somehow, they could go on patching things up, concealing problems, hiding bad debts, hoping that exports will save them... It is very difficult for any country to accept that a formula that has worked very well before is no longer working. The obvious parallel is Britain in the 1970s. An elite had managed to win a war, construct the first comprehensive welfare state and maintain a leading position in scientific and technical advances. When the strains showed, its instinct was to patch. Only the humiliation of the IMF conditions in 1976 forced change.

The first question for Japan is: will the situation be so bad that patching becomes impossible? If there were a banking crash that led to three years of deep recession and a surge in social tensions, change might be forced on the country.

The second question is: what will be the mechanism for change? Can the system change itself from within? The last two great changes were forced on Japan from abroad by the US. However, not only is there no appetite for such action in America, but Japan would not accept such pressure even if there was. So Japan is on its own.

Whatever happens – and my instinct is that there will be a great change of some sort, but not for another four or five years – there is a lot to play for. Japan's recession has a long way to run.

BY HAMISH MCRAE

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## Clinton vs puritans

Sir: The pundits of Puritan prurery had better realise that their hypocrisy isn't selling in the American heartland. Kenneth Starr promised proof of criminal activity, but the only charges he makes against President Clinton relate to a natural reluctance to publicly admit to an embarrassing sexual affair. Where are the felonies? Where's the graft? Where's the corruption?

They promised to reveal serious crimes in the Oval Office, but it all boils down to a consensual sexual matter having no real bearing on Clinton's management of the people's affairs. Clinton is doing a tremendous job of running the country and we are not going to allow a gang of moral masqueraders to overthrow the best President we've had in the last 35 years.

Starr has wasted four years and \$40m proving that a man will lie about an extramarital affair. We do not approve of infidelity, but we know the difference between a sexual indiscretion and activities that undermine the people's interests. The religious fanatics trying to stir up a witch hunt should heed the President's popularity ratings, because those numbers are going to sink the Republican Party in November.

STEVEN WEBSTER  
San Raphael, California, USA

Sir: It is not the sex, but the principle: that the Executive obstructed the Judiciary - deliberately misleading them and the American people under oath. The fact that the President may have avoided the precise legal definition of perjury is not directly relevant to the question of impeachment, which is more broadly contingent upon acts tending to undermine the Constitution.

The semantic smokescreen behind which the President hid depended upon who touched whose genitals - and so also upon Ms Lewinsky's denial of a sexual relationship. Thus the President's concealment relied upon testimony which he knew to be perjury even by his own interpretation.

The President is sworn to uphold and defend the Constitution, with its deliberately constructed checks and balances, including those between the Judiciary and the Executive. Yet he (at least) took advantage of an act he knew to be illegal to obstruct a judicial investigation into his own conduct.

The question is not, would you trust this man with your daughter; but rather, would you trust him with the Constitution?

GERARD M BLAIR  
Fort Collins, Colorado, USA

Sir: Now it seems the only options left for president Clinton are the two great American institutions, to "get Jesus" in a very big and public way and/or commit himself to the care of a therapist. Either way we will get to witness very well-spun contrition, absolution and rehabilitation with an ever more impassioned crescendo of pleas for forgiveness.

"New-found religion" is the same play that those on Death Row often embrace, usually to no avail. As Governor of Arkansas and a presidential hopeful, Clinton very publicly signed death warrants, just for the votes. Now he wants forgiveness. May one suggest that he begin by asking forgiveness from all the families of those put to death in Arkansas.

ROBERT HERTNER  
London NW10

Sir: The US Congress, in releasing the Starr report on to the Internet, are guilty of astonishing hypocrisy. How can those politicians complain about pornography being available on the Internet when they themselves have placed on the net a sexually explicit report. How can children be prevented from seeing it? A single search against the name Clinton will enable any child to view its contents.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk  
E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity



Apples and Pears 2: in the second in a series on the British apple and pear harvest, Kelly Mantle picks apples at Plumford farm near Faversham in Kent. Pickers are paid by the bin-load  
Tom Pilston

It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the only purpose of the Starr report, having found no evidence of financial impropriety on the President's part, was to cause him as much embarrassment as possible.

MARTIN EDWARDS  
London SE24

Sir: I do not approve of Clinton's affair with Lewinsky, but I approve even less of both Starr and the global media machine.

Starr appears hell-bent on removing a president from office. The global media machine appears hell-bent on trawling the depths of depravity to provide the most salacious material for its readers.

I feel most sorry for Hillary and Chelsea Clinton. To have dirty linen is bad; to have it aired around the world for all to see must be almost unbearable. One can only admire Hillary for the way in which she is supporting her husband.

Dr SALLY BASKER  
Ash, Surrey

Sir: Kenneth Starr's undignified slandering over the details of Bill Clinton's sex life testifies to nothing so much as his narrow horizons. As his fellow American Woody Allen taught us, "Sex is dirty; at least it is if you're doing it right."

BARRY IFE  
Woodbridge, Suffolk

## Fairer voting

Sir: Mike Gapes MP ("Right of Reply", 10 September) argues that the Jenkins Commission on proportional representation should recognise "the overriding importance of keeping the link between MP and constituency."

Why? Surveys show that few of us can even name our local MP. Even fewer bother to attend their

meetings or surgeries. And the 1997 election surely dispelled the myth of the "personal vote" (more a product of Members' vanity than a reflection of psephological reality).

The fact is, constituency MPs are neither one thing nor the other. Ward councillors are better placed to handle truly local concerns than MPs who, all too often, are parachuted in from distant parts of the country, spend much of their time in London and have little real commitment to their constituencies (witness the pre-election "chicken run" as senior Tories dumped their adopted political "homes" with barely a second glance in their rear-view mirrors). Citizens' Advice Bureaux, too, generally provide rather more practical assistance than MPs, despite their much vaunted "special access" to ministers or civil servants.

As for the bigger local issues, regional representatives (within larger, multi-member constituencies) would surely be better placed to fight their constituents' corner with Whitehall and big business.

And after all, when push comes

to shove, are Mr Gapes and his colleagues ever likely to defy the party whip - even when "their" constituents' interests are compromised? In your dreams.

The fact is people vote for parties, not individuals, and a fair electoral system must reflect that fact. Sadly, if Mike Gapes's column is anything to go by, there are still plenty of turkeys at Westminster who won't be voting for Christmas. Fortunately, the decision will be ours, not theirs.

ANDREW MITCHELL  
London W4

Sir: A D Hoadley (letter, 7 September) doubts whether Lord Jenkins will propose a voting system "which discounts party power... and is devised solely for the health of the democracy". He should not be unduly surprised, seeing that Mr Blair has initiated events in the wrong order.

It would have been far better had he called a referendum first. The electorate should have been given a choice of several systems. Only then should Lord Jenkins's committee have been convened, their job being to decide the precise details of the system.

## IN BRIEF

BBC stopped broadcasting to Thailand? These people, many British-educated, now had to watch CNN (considered very inferior) to receive foreign news broadcasts.

The answer, of course, is that the BBC transmissions to South-east Asia used one of Rupert Murdoch's satellites and he stopped that, for fear that unbiased BBC reporting might damage his commercial interests in China. He has damaged British relations with

several friendly South-east Asian countries. Is he going to be allowed to ruin football as well?

SUSAN TRITTON  
Edinburgh

Sir: The next time Uri Geller gives his inner divinity an outing (letter, 11 September) on some Saturday night light entertainment programme, he might like to try rebarboring a badly twisted spoon to its perfect original shape. A truly serious purpose.

DAMIAN MURRAY  
Leeds

A second referendum might have been necessary, but at least we could be sure that a reformed electoral system, if asked for, would be implemented sooner rather than later.

By implementing a "committee stage" before he has ascertained whether there is a demand for electoral reform, Mr Blair may well be wasting taxpayer's money; he cannot tell. Worse, he may find, at a later date, that electoral reform suits him, but the voters have tired of his government and are no longer willing to listen to it.

NEIL INGOE  
Woking, Surrey

Sir: According to recent reports some of the trade unions affiliated to the Labour Party, together with the Conservative Party leadership, are preparing to oppose any move from the first-past-the-post system for elections to the House of Commons.

Exceptionally in a British context, it would appear that the electorate are actually going to be allowed a direct voice on the matter in a referendum. I hope that voters will take on board the fact that in electing their leaders

and chief officers, the Conservative Party, the Labour Party and most trade unions have long abandoned plurality voting, and have substituted some system of second ballot, alternative vote or proportional representation. Clearly, for them, what is sauce for the goose is not sauce for the gander.

STEPHEN G LINSTAD  
Solihull, West Midlands

Pte Ryan's trauma  
Sir: As well as reviewing *Saving Private Ryan* ("Killing time killing Nazis", 10 September), I hope you will be covering its potential effect upon surviving war veterans. Over the past few years, I have seen an increasing number of people suffering from delayed post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) related to wartime experiences.

Complaints have included nightmares, flashbacks, intense feelings of guilt, difficulties relating to others, preoccupying thoughts. These complaints have often been related to other events in the individuals' lives - death of a spouse, death of a wartime comrade, increasing time to think about the past because of illness or retirement - but are sometimes triggered by specific events, such as the D-Day anniversary commemorations. It seems likely that, as in America, this film and the accompanying coverage will trigger delayed PTSD for some individuals and I trust that a percentage of the profits is being used to help such people.

Although I will see the film myself, I am not entirely convinced that the entertainment/education of the many is entirely worth the suffering of the few, particularly when they have already suffered.

Dr CHRIS ALLEN  
Consultant Clinical Psychologist  
Stoke Mandeville Hospital  
Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire

## A potter's legacy

Sir: The name of the potter Bernard Leach is renowned throughout the world. He lived for a long period in Japan; in 1920 he returned to the UK and started Leach pottery at St Ives. After the Second World War he made standard ware in stoneware of excellent design and made individual pieces in stoneware and porcelain. He wrote *A Potter's Book*, which was translated into several languages.

In the Fifties he married his third wife, Janet. Janet Leach died last year. Her collection of pots and artefacts will be offered in a major sale at Bonhams, auctioneers, of London, in three sales taking place in one day on 16 September.

It is vital that important pots made by Bernard Leach and documents and books owned by him should stay in the public domain and not be bought by private collectors or museums abroad unless they are scrutinised by people who are competent to judge.

HENRY W ROTHSCHILD  
Cambridge

## Change of planning

Sir: In his letter about the Trafford Centre in Greater Manchester (10 September), Mark Brockbank says "The planning process is carried out under the rules laid down by the Government" and "Permission was given for Trafford development to go ahead because the House of Lords ruled that the law said there was no reason why it could not".

Permission for the Trafford Centre was given under a previous policy in a previous government. It is the policy which determines the planning process. At that time, the government of the day was lenient towards out-of-town development, and negative to the role of the planning system, which it saw as inhibiting competition.

Now we are moving away from the mistakes of the past; such permission would be far more difficult to obtain.

Section 54A of the Town & Country Planning Act (1990) gives priority to the local authority's Development Plan - prepared with public involvement and in accordance with current policy. This policy requires that the development plan looks first at town centre sites, makes use of previously developed land and aims to minimise travel.

Planning Policy Guidance Note 1 (1997) states that "an applicant who proposes development which is clearly in conflict with the development plan would need to produce convincing reasons why the plan should not prevail".

Planners knew then that the building of the Trafford Centre was not the right thing to do - it is only now that government agrees with us.

TREVOR ROBERTS  
President  
The Royal Town Planning Institute  
London W1

## Fashions in faith

Sir: With the benefit of hindsight, much of what passed for biblical and theological scholarship in the last 150 years (letters 4, 9 September) now looks like a series of fads which expressed the culture of the day.

Molly Rosenthal's apparent liking for "questioning" faith may be another one of those fads. Whilst questioning God and wrestling with problems is basic to biblical faith (most obviously in the Psalms), there is a place for conviction too. The rejection of certainty as a need for the spiritually immature not only feels rather superior, but parallels a wider cultural disdain for authority and the idea that things can be taken on trust. In a generation or two, Ms Rosenthal's perspective (and probably her reliance on modern cosmology too) may look just as dated as previous versions of "culture Christianity".

The Rev DAVID KEEN  
Yeovil, Somerset

## Can you resist the poisoned apple of bureaucracy?

EVERY DAY I get press releases and government leaflets and publicity blurbs landing on my desk and every day I let them drift gently into my waste paper basket like sudden autumn leaves, but yesterday was an exception; my eye was caught by a most unusual government hand-out. This turned out to be such an extraordinary document that I have not only kept it, I have decided to print it in full today, in order to give you some idea of the way this government really is looking after us properly...

Windfall Apples - All You Need To Know  
A Message from New Labour

Hello! This is autumn, the time when we go blackberrying and mushroom picking, and when we

traditionally put our excess apples in baskets outside our houses, marked "Windfalls - Please Take!". It's a nice custom.

For a start, it's not cruel like fox-hunting. And it shows a touch of generosity perhaps needed in this modern world.

But before you put your windfall apples out to be taken, it's as well that you are acquainted with the law concerning such fruit.

Did you know, for instance, that it is illegal to put out windfall apples in baskets on public property and that it should be restricted to your own land?

Did you know that it is illegal to accept any money in return for your windfalls unless the figures are included on your tax returns and you are duly registered as a "licensed fruit-seller"? (Why not send up for

our booklet, *How to Register as a Bone Fide Greengrocer*?) Do you know that it is illegal to give away windfall apples even on your own property unless you are registered as a charity?

(Why not send up for our booklet, *Tip-toeing Your Way Through The Minefield We Call Charity*...?) Either way, you ought to know the pitfalls of the health and safety regulations governing the transfer of fruit from private ownership to the public domain.

For instance, if someone falls ill after eating one of your windfall apples and can prove it was your liability, did you know that you can be prosecuted under the Fruit Insurance Act? With liabilities of up to £50,000? Did you know that any windfall apple charity area (and this means your front gate) should be

provided with adequate toilet and hand-washing facilities? Did you know that your windfall apple charity area should be provided with

adequate disabled access facilities? (You can always send up for our leaflet, *Windfall Apples and Adequate Parking: The Facts*.) All that is fairly simple and straightforward. But remember, too, that the apples you give away must be on the list of approved fruit circulated by the European Union, and that it is a crime to give away species not recognised by Brussels.

The shape and dimension of the apples must be within the prescribed limits laid down by Brussels. It might be of some assistance if you sent up for our companion volume, *Towards a European Apple: Some Notes*.

This means that the measurements of each apple should be logged and the shapes sketched on the appropriate forms.



MILES KINGTON  
This will tell you the basic laws governing the tricky process of throwing apples away

provided with adequate toilet and hand-washing facilities? Did you know that your windfall apple charity

area should be provided with adequate disabled access facilities? (You can always send up for our leaflet, *Windfall Apples and Adequate Parking: The Facts*.)

All that is fairly simple and straightforward. But remember, too, that the apples you give away must be on the list of approved fruit circulated by the European Union, and that it is a crime to give away species not recognised by Brussels.

The shape and dimension of the apples must be within the prescribed limits laid down by Brussels. It might be of some assistance if you sent up for our companion volume, *Towards a European Apple: Some Notes*.

This means that the measurements of each apple should be logged and the shapes sketched on the appropriate forms.

It also means that all apples must be carefully wiped and washed, labelled and described.

Do not forget, too, that we have to be very careful about the basket in which your apples are displayed.

Is it made in the European Union? From approved ingredients? Has it been checked for contagious diseases recently?

(To be on the safe side, why not send up for our companion booklet, *The Top Hundred Contagious Diseases Approved by the European Union*?)

Is there adequate protection for your apples from the rain?

And from passing insect life? Do you know how you stand legally if a passing walker should reach out for one of your apples and be stung by a bee sitting on it, then die horribly? Did you know that

grubs and insects in apples are, technically, livestock and should be looked after as such?

Perhaps you ought to send up for our helpful leaflet, *Blimey, If I'd Known It was Going to Be This Kind of Bureaucratic Nightmare, I'd Have Thrown The Bloody Apples Away In The First Place!*

This will tell you the basic laws governing the tricky process of throwing apples away.

But please never forget one thing. We are here to help and to make things easier for you.

Thank you.

CORRECTION: Yesterday I wrote 'Andrew Lloyd Webber is one of the great cultural heroes of our time'. This should, of course, have read '...one of the great cultural heroes of our time'. Sorry.



# THE INDEPENDENT

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## Forget "fat cats" and focus on fighting inequality

IT IS tempting to cheer on John Edmonds and the TUC as they lay into managers on huge bonuses and salaries as "greedy bastards", despite the crude nature of this language. For one thing, TUC members, many of them having their pay held down by the Government, must have been glad to hear someone give vent to their frustrations.

Mr Edmonds's comments have a deeper resonance. The widening gap between rich and poor is a legitimate concern. Only last week, a UN report ranked Britain one of the most unequal societies in the developed world: nearly a fifth of the population live below its measure of the poverty line. Meanwhile, there can be little doubt that the rich have become very much richer.

There have been abuses, especially in the privatised utilities. Sell-offs of those firms at prices below their market cost kept their monopoly position intact. This has meant that directors' share options have risen far beyond improvements in performance can justify. Hence, the public anger at the pay of directors of rail and water companies.

Concentrating on a few abnormal cases, however, clouds our view of the big picture. In a classic example of British class politics and envy, the country has for too long focused on those cases, to the exclusion of other issues of pay and inequality. Increasing access to new technology, education, and jobs is the key to reducing poverty: shouting at the rich will not improve the situation on one so-called "sink" estate, or save one family snared in poverty.

There are no easy answers to the problem of inequality. Edmonds's call for higher taxation on top earners is an emotional, not a rational response; such measures would do little to bridge the gap between rich and poor. There are simply too few really high earners to pay for a sustained attack on poverty. If the public really does want to tackle social exclusion, it will have to pay more in taxes - and that includes those earning what many would consider relatively modest wages.

The Government is already taking action to make sure that utilities can no longer abuse their market dominance. The regulators appointed by government are to be merged, given more power, and given a role in relating pay to performance. More competition is opening up the gas, telecoms and electricity industries, preventing them reaping easy profits. This, in particular, should have a restraining effect on wage settlements.



As for "fat cats" in the private sector, there seems little the Government can do directly. It can, however, make sure that corporate governance is reviewed. Remuneration committees and company boards are notoriously weak when it comes to standing up to powerful employees, many of whom are friends of those who sit in judgement on their salaries. They need to be tougher. They should ensure that losses are punished in pay packets, just as much as profits are rewarded.

More broadly, it seems as if the Government will have to look again at the fetish it has made of refusing to raise direct taxes. There seems little doubt that Labour's terror at tax rises, driven by memories of the 1992 election,

is now outdated. Whatever caution we need in approaching the evidence of opinion polls, they consistently show a huge drop in the numbers of those resisting tax rises since then.

There needs to be a vigorous debate on taxation: new ideas are desperately needed. To take just one, the tax burden could be lifted at the bottom end of the scale, helping millions on low incomes escape the poverty trap of losing most of their wages in tax and benefit withdrawals. Only such measures, along with higher taxes across the board, could pay for a real attack on inequality. That would be better than a mere spasm of anger, aimed at an unpopular minority.

## Remember those who risk their lives

OF ALL the compromises involved in the Northern Ireland peace process, those surrounding the release of paramilitary prisoners are the hardest to take. Quite apart from the moral probity of releasing convicted killers before their term is served, there are practical problems as well. If the Maze is eventually to close, and "de-militarisation" proceed by shrinking the RUC, what is to happen to all those who have served the Crown in its long conflict in Northern Ireland?

Unfortunately, the Government has not done very well in beginning to answer this question. There are reports that the Treasury, against the advice of the Northern Ireland Secretary, Mo Mowlam, is trying to limit redundancy payments to ex-prison officers to an amount within her existing budget. A more short-sighted piece of penny-pinching would be difficult to imagine.

These reports send exactly the wrong signal to the forces of law and order in Northern Ireland, at just the wrong time. As prisoner releases were unsettling Unionist opinion, and many within the RUC, the news that terms for those laid off were going to be decided by the Treasury in London was the last thing the peace process needed.

Quite apart from this, there is the moral issue. Prison officers and RUC personnel have put their lives on the line for the public time after time. Prison officers have been expected to tolerate a virtual prisoner-of-war camp atmosphere inside the Maze, complete with "consultation" with the inmates. RUC patrols have come under fire from snipers day after day.

To say that Sinn Féin, which spent decades trying to undermine the British government, can now be pillars of that rule, is one thing. To say that those who always supported the rule of law should be jettisoned on the cheap is quite another. The Treasury, in the shape of its Chief Secretary, Stephen Byers, should reconsider its request of Mo Mowlam. Reconciliation and fair treatment should apply to all sides in the Province: that should include those employed by the state just as much as anyone else.

## Mothers' pride

THE DEBUNKING of our new urban myths continues apace. Not only are "new lads" revealed by a survey as using mobile telephones to call their mothers more than anyone else, "new ladettes" also turn out to be a less than exciting group. They have admitted to *Bella* magazine that they do not enjoy sex very much. Is this good or bad news for the makers of Viagra?

# Unions must realise this is the only Labour government they have

THE LAST time Labour came into office after a long period out of it, a jolly joke circulated among union leaders. It was about the trade union delegation to the TUC Congress which held a lavish reception at which the guest of honour was Harold Wilson.

So lavish, in fact that when the delegates got back to London, the union's Treasurer questioned the cost. Ah well, the General Secretary explained, Harold was detained until late at Downing Street on vital government business and we had to keep drinking until he arrived.

But then the following year the costs of the union's annual reception proved to be wildly over budget once more. With just a hint of sarcasm, the Treasurer asked whether Harold Wilson had been late again. "No", the general secretary replied wearily, "George Brown was early".

The story conjures precisely the cosy - if frequently also acrimonious - family atmosphere that joined what used to be called the political and industrial wings of the Labour movement when the party was last in power. To most of those now inhabiting Downing Street, however, including Tony Blair, the joke will be just a ghostly and baffling throwback to a past that no longer has any meaning. All that has gone.

The present Prime Minister certainly does not see the TUC - at whose general council dinner he will be a somewhat reluctant guest of honour this evening - as an inseparable sibling of the party he leads.

The links between a Labour government and the TUC are not, to put it mildly, what they were.

True, old habits die harder than you might have thought. John Prescott,

the (very soft-drinking) equivalent in power of George Brown, was there yesterday; Peter Mandelson who, as he reminded my colleague Andrew Grice at the weekend, actually worked at the TUC 20 years ago, is cutting short his trip to South Africa to speak to the Congress on Thursday.

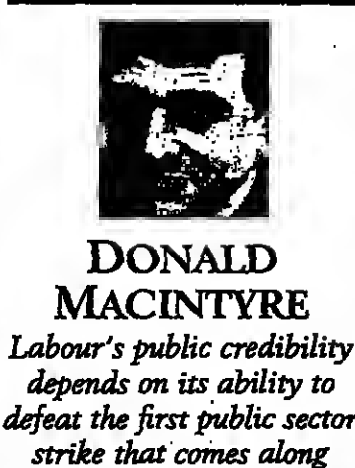
David Blunkett and Mo Mowlam are going. Gordon Brown would certainly be heaving criticisms of the high level of sterling and interest rates, were he not in Japan. Instead this task will be left to Eddie George, no less, the Governor of the Bank of England.

The number of ministers elbowing each other out of the way in the rush to Blackpool is one of the reasons why this year's Congress is proving more interesting than many in the recent past; the other is that at least some of the fears being expressed by manufacturing unions about the economy will be echoed elsewhere, including among industrialists.

This is flattering. But union leaders should not be lulled by this welcome attention into forgetting that the world has changed beyond recognition since the last time they met a year into a Labour government.

To judge by the blood-curdling threats of industrial action in the public sector by John Edmonds, or by Roger Lyons' tendency to blame British interest rates for every factory closure in the North East, this is a lesson they still find difficult to learn.

The sense of grievance among public sector workers, whose pay is increasing at only half the rate of those in the private sector, is real; especially in the case of nurses and teachers, whose commitment and quality is critical to the two services which Labour woo the election



**DONALD MACINTYRE**  
*Labour's public credibility depends on its ability to defeat the first public sector strike that comes along*

promising to improve. But the unions face a severe problem in contemplating strikes, as Mr Edmonds must know. Tony Blair and Gordon Brown's economic credibility would depend on their ability to defeat the first public sector strike that comes their way, and the rank and file membership may be quite intelligent enough to realise it.

Similarly it positively undermines the case for the Bank of England's remit to be widened to take more account of the problems of manufacturing industry if Lyons pretends that a collapse in the world micro-chip market, caused by the Asian economic crisis, was not to blame for the Fujitsu or Siemens closures.

The only organisation ignoring those factors is the British Conservative Party, and they at least have the excuse that their job is opposition, on whatever grounds.

What has made the TUC an important forum this year - apart from

the understandable desire of ministers to rub shoulders briefly with leaders of Labour-affiliated unions who still matter at the party conference, not to mention, perhaps, leadership contests in the distant future - is largely the work of one man. John Monks.

Mr Monks is an articulate, thoughtful and thoroughly modern leader of what he himself never ceases to remind interviewers is the country's largest voluntary organisation. It may be unfashionable to say so, but the TUC congress, in its less publicised debates, discusses, often before anyone else does, a whole series of bread and butter issues from safety at work to productivity, which are of genuinely national importance.

Mr Monks has stressed continually the value of industrial partnership. He understands that the unions have problems of their own which they cannot expect government of any colour to sort out for them.

With membership of TUC-affiliated unions down to 6.6m compared with 13m in 1980, the unions have a duty to organise as well as moan, to paraphrase the old American Industrial Workers of the World slogan.

That is why the TUC has started to hire and train expert young union recruiters for the private sector. Mr Monks has shown some signs of irritation with colleagues apparently anxious to talk industry into a worse recession than it may already face. He understands that political lobbying may be a more potent weapon than threats of industrial action. And his proven negotiating skills are one of the reasons why the TUC made some real gains in employee rights in the *Business of Work* White Paper.

True to form some of his colleagues

then immediately denounced the outcome to the detriment of their own reputations among their members.

Employers, including newspaper industry employers like Rupert Murdoch's News International, have now embarked on a ferocious lobbying campaign to water down some of these provisions. There is certainly a case for unions, at a time when they are proclaiming their justified worries about jobs, not demanding so much labour market regulation that it, too, threatens employment.

Nevertheless Mr Mandelson would be unwise to bow too far to the employers by unravelling the carefully constructed settlement which produced his predecessor's White Paper. The settlement took a great deal of negotiation - and Mr Monks is well aware that he will have a ready audience in the Parliamentary Labour Party if he is in a position to cry foul on an agreement which the unions thought was a done deal. Nor should the TUC be ignored: if John Monks' strong support for EMU holds, despite TGWU opposition this week - and his case is stronger in view of the higher rate of sterling - it will become a highly important instrument for delivering a yes vote in a referendum.

In return however union leaders should listen to Mr Monks a little more and use the oldpeak of 20 years ago a little less. As Mr Prescott reminded them yesterday, they are listened to a lot more by this administration than the last. The minimum wage, better rights at work, and at least the right to recognition if a ballot votes for it, is more than any Tory administration was prepared to grant.

In the end, this is the only Labour government they have got.

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I want a pluralist parliament for a pluralist people in a Northern Ireland in which all of us, unionist and nationalist, work together."  
David Trimble,  
Northern Ireland's First Minister

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"It is better to die on your feet than to live on your knees."  
Dolores Barruri,  
Spanish communist and trade unionist



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HE HAS humiliated his wife, embarrassed his daughter, demeaned himself and debased his office. Continuing the fight to stay on will only exacerbate this damage. He should resign.  
*The Australian*

THE SALIENT points are that Mr Clinton had a sexual relationship with a 21-year-old intern and lied about it under oath. At best, Congress may censure him. In the worst, it may impeach him. In the meantime, the presidency will be

reduced to a semen-stained shell and the government of the sole remaining superpower will be paralysed even as the world faces its worst economic crisis since the 1930s.  
*Straits Times, Singapore*

THIS AFFAIR shows the vibrancy of the US system, be it constitutional, legal or moral. After all, Mr Clinton did not invent sexual peccadilloes. From Washington and Jefferson to John Kennedy, not all the residents of the White

House have exactly been exemplars of sexual rectitude.  
*Hindustan Times, India*

AT A time when the world community is plagued by financial and economic crisis, the lack of American leadership is a cause of concern. The flip side of the quandary is that Clinton's battered leadership does not seem to contain the vital-

ty and effectiveness needed to lead not only his own nation, but also the global community that looks to him for precious leadership.  
*Korea Times*

WHAT IS needed now is action, and the only honourable action still open to the president is to hand over the keys to the Oval Office - the inner sanctum of American executive power, which he has sullied in so many ways.  
*South China Morning Post*

With scores of millions of people starving all around the globe, or fleeing as refugees from war, flood, pestilence, and privation, the world heading into global recession that savages and demeans lives, who the hell cares whether a seri-

al lecher named Bill cavorted at the White House with a suddenly love-struck "sick" girl named Monica?  
*Philippine Star*

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*Philippine Star*



## PANDORA

NEW LABOUR cabinet members were very keen to attend this week's Trades Union Congress in Blackpool. However, Pandora has learned from a senior Cabinet source that John Prescott and Mo Mowlam were the only two originally invited. After urgent requests, now even Peter Mandelson is cutting short his trade visit to South Africa to rush back to the seaside gathering, although, following his decision to distance the UK from EU directives on workers' rights, he may wish he'd stayed south of the Kalahari. Claire Short and David Blunkett are also going, while Chancellor Gordon Brown sincerely regrets that the economic crisis meetings in Japan will make it impossible for him to attend. A TUC spokesman maintains that ministers were invited to attend specific debates and adds, "I could not tell you what invitations went out at what time."

WHAT IS it about rich entrepreneurs and hot air? Richard Branson has just announced that, after almost losing his life in a disastrous North African balloon mishap, he will be making another attempt to circumnavigate the globe next year. Meanwhile, sportswear designer Tommy Hilfinger had his promotional blimp destroyed over New York City in a storm on Monday while advertising the launch of his latest branch in Macy's department store. (Indeed Macy's is being sued for the damage its own balloon caused to a woman during last year's Thanksgiving Day Parade.) Can we expect to see Mohamed al-Fayed - no stranger to hot air - floating skywards over Knightsbridge soon? Pandora supposes it depends on that passport.

ANOTHER ENTREPRENEUR, John DeLorean (pictured), whose gullwing sports car project in Northern Ireland failed after producing just 8,500 models, has named his list of the greatest cars ever built. Starting with the Ford Model T, the list, in American Esquire, includes the Ferrari GTO, the Acura NSX, the Austin Mini, Lotus 25, Pontiac GT0 (designed by DeLorean for General Motors), the Mercedes 300SL gullwing, Mercedes S600 and the Citroën SM. But nowhere on the list is the DeLorean itself. If the designer didn't think his car was all that brilliant, he could have saved the British taxpayers £85m - the sum given him by both Labour and Tory governments to help build a soon-obsolete collectors' item.

WHILE THE British vice consul on Ibiza, Michael Birkett, has just resigned in outrage over the sex-and-

drug antics on the island, Rupert Murdoch's SkyTV is all set to import a shocking new game show called *Prickly Heat* to nearby Mallorca. Thirty-two "unassuming contestants" from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales are transported to Mallorca and thrown into a hotbed of crazy, sassy activity under Balearic skies, states the Sky PR release. The stated aim is to turn everyone's holiday into "a beach-style take on *Gladiators*", and of course "there is always room for romance and raucous antics". Won't the locals, who have been striving to turn Mallorca into an up-market resort in recent years, be pleased with this?

IS THIS how a coalition government begins? It seems that many ranking Liberal Democrats are receiving a Labour Party mailing urging them to vote for the pro-Blair slate of candidates in the elections for the National Executive Committee. Those who have received it, according to the *Liberal Democrat News*, include Ray Love (Winchester Lib Dem councillor), Bob Bailey (president of Brighton and Hove Lib Dems) and Mike Tuffey (former Lib Dem leader of Lambeth Council). "I was about to vote in the election," Ray Love told Pandora. "But my conscience caught up with me."

WHILE ON the subject of dubious coalitions, Pandora wonders what to make of Michael Portillo's forthcoming three-part series for Channel 4. Billed as Portillo's personal "quest for a new political agenda for the party", the former Tory Defence Secretary has filmed interviews with William Hague, Norman Tebbit, Chris Patten, Ken Clarke - and Peter Mandelson! What recipe for electoral success has spin-master Mandy given his arch Tory rival? The necessity to keep in close communication with party members, using second class post?



## Why there are no real winners



TERENCE BLACKER

*'The population has been drugged into a more subservient fatalism than any religion has managed'*

THERE COMES a moment in your life when, in spite of every effort, you eventually become Kingsley Amis. For years, you have been bumbling onwards, amiably opinionated, generally rubbing along with colleagues and intimates, however unsatisfactory they may be.

Then one day, something happens. It might be an unsolicited telephone call from a window salesman, or the proliferation of identical blondes on game shows, or a stranger addressing you by your Christian name, or Richard Whiteley, or a TV commercial for tampons. Suddenly, without warning, there you are, on the steps of your own private Garrick Club, red-faced, eyes bulging, a vein throbbing dangerously in the side of your head, consumed by a mighty, all-embracing Amisian rage against the modern world and the new ways that every day it finds to irritate you.

I've managed to hold off this moment for some time. I can't get enough of blondes on game shows; telephone salesmen who use my Christian name make me feel loved; there's something attractively saucy and subversive about being let into

gaily secrets about the super-absorbency. Yet, twice a week, I become Kingsley Amis, and there's nothing I can do about it.

It's the look of the people as they queue at the newsagent or a post office on Wednesday or Saturday; slack-jawed with anticipation, caught between hope and despair; they wait for their stupid scratch-card or lottery tickets like cows in

a milking parlour. I want to shake them, scream at them, implore them to get a life in which they are not spending time, energy and hope on a process that is both morally dubious and which dooms them to weekly disappointment.

Surely, when historians look back on these years, they will identify the national lottery as a perfect emblem of the spiritual poverty of the late twentieth century. Almost miraculously, it combines the tawdriest aspects of our recent past: the something-for-nothing welfareism of the Seventies, the greed of the Eighties, the cringing obsession with selfhood and lifestyle of the Nineties. A brief shuddering glance at the lottery draw, shown every week on TV, reveals its origins. Lotteries have always gone down well in the world's poorer countries where despair, religious fantasy and cheap glamour feed off one another. The Saturday-night extravaganza put on by the BBC is so strikingly similar in its glitter, noise and vulgarity to the parody of a Third-World TV show on *The Fast Show* that one expects Caroline Aherne to come tripping on in nine-

inch heels and squeak "Scorchio!". Puritanical? The weekly flutter is no more than a bit of fun? Ob please. Consider how often in everyday life you hear the phrase "if I won the lottery". In the it-could-be-you culture, the numbers game has had a profound psychological influence on millions, all ideas of responsibility for one's own future being replaced by an easy, knuckle-brained faith in the roll of a few numbered balls. After all, why bother to improve your life if, on any Wednesday or Saturday, it can be transformed, materially and, money being the new cure-all, spiritually?

No surprise, then, that it is those who can afford it least who spend most on the lottery every week. Tricked by an unholy alliance of business, media interests and politicians, into believing that the miracle of Camelot will provide them with an escape from their lives, seduced into a mindset of greed, fantasy and laziness, a large proportion of the population has been drugged into a more subservient fatalism than any religion has ever managed.

For many, it has indeed become a sort of religion. In the schools that

I occasionally visit to discuss my books, nothing shocks or disappoints the children as much as my scepticism in this area. Never mind Jesus, or Santa or the Tooth Fairy: the one article of faith they are brought up to believe in is the promised land confectioned by Camelot. No wonder that, when any spare cash in the family budget goes towards the lottery, it is such indulgences as the buying of a paperback that are the first casualty.

The very middle class sophisticates who would deplore the expenditure of dole money at a betting shop indulge this more mindless form of gambling. Political leaders, who once might have been expected to question its moral wisdom, divert their eyes and count the cash going. Those who would squawk at the higher rate of taxes excuse their indulgence on the grounds that a tiny part of their money may go to a good cause.

It is pointless and mindless, passive and onanistic, the pastime of a nation so seduced by cheap miracles that even its national football team employs a faith-healer. I am sure Sir Kingsley would have agreed.

## Doctor, doctor - can I have a fag and a chip butty now?



JEREMY LAURANCE

*'After 20 years of scolding us about tobacco and cholesterol, experts have had their comeuppance'*

RED FACES should be in abundance among the heart specialists and health charities at the moment. After 20 years of scolding us about the risk of tobacco and cholesterol, they have got their comeuppance. The world's largest and longest study of heart disease, published a week ago, has shown that these risk factors are, apparently, irrelevant.

It was an astonishing finding and it came from an impeccable source - the World Health Organisation's "Monica" project which has compared the health records of 38 populations in 21 countries over the last two decades. Preliminary results presented at the European Congress of Cardiology in Vienna showed that heart disease rates were declining in most populations but there was no link - no link at all - with the standard risk factors of smoking, blood pressure and cholesterol.

You might have expected such a finding to provoke an outbreak of soul searching amongst the scientific establishment. Every doctor and health educator who has ever issued nattering advice to people to cut down on fags and chip butties had received a sharp reminder that causes of heart disease are far from simple. But no. The statement issued by Professor Brian Pentecost, medical director of the British Heart Foundation, said bluntly: "The unexpected findings in no way detract from the current health messages, such as stopping smoking and eating less fatty foods."

Call me old fashioned but I had always thought that the difference between medicine and witchcraft was that medicine relied on hard scientific evidence. For the medical director of Britain's leading heart charity to airily dismiss the findings of the world's largest heart study as "in no way detracting" from current health advice fair takes the breath away.

Let me stress this was no back-of-the-envelope job. Indeed the British Heart Foundation itself contributed almost £900,000 towards its cost. The Monica researchers studied 150,000 heart attacks and 180,000 risk factor records and the results were sent to a data centre in Helsinki for analysis. That showed that there were large differences in the rate of decline in heart disease in different centres even where they had similar trends in risk factors.

For example, in the decade from 1985-94, north Glasgow had the worst heart disease rate in the world for women and the second worst for middle-aged men (after north Karelia, Finland). Yet over the 10-year period the risk factors of smoking, blood pressure and cholesterol declined as fast in Glasgow as in any other population. Despite this fall, the heart disease rate actually rose among women and there was only a small decline among men.

Where does this leave us? If Professor Pentecost is to be believed, exactly where we were before. He said:

"Heart disease is known to have many possible causes. The way in which these combine to affect overall risk is highly complex. The effect of a reduction or removal in risk factors are likely to vary across individuals."

Professor Hugh Tunstall-Pedoe, one of Monica's driving forces and the director of the cardiovascular epidemiology unit at the University of Dundee, at least acknowledged that the results were "a bit of a surprise". But his efforts to explain the findings - difficulties in standardising measurements across the different countries, the long time lag before risk factors take effect - have a hollow ring to them. These problems should have been clear 20 years ago and if the researchers thought they were likely to invalidate the study why did they proceed with it?

To muddy the waters further, he offers a startling analogy to explain why no effect of smoking and cholesterol were found in the Monica study: "If you get eaten by a crocodile when you are expecting lions and tigers it does not mean that big cats have rubber teeth."

This raises more questions than it answers. All these years we have observed people carried off in their thousands by heart disease to an early death and we have assumed they were eaten by the lion of tobacco or the tiger of cholesterol when in fact many more died in the jaws of the crocodile of... what?

Professor Tunstall-Pedoe offers no suggestions but implies that there is something out there in the jungle (a virus, perhaps?) which is more dangerous than lions or tigers but still unidentified.

The viral theory has some backers. This would fit with the epidemic nature of heart disease in the West which rose sharply in the Sixties and Seventies and has declined



in most countries since the 1980s as the Monica project has shown.

A second theory, as Professor Pentecost has suggested, is that wealth may improve survival. The Monica project showed that those countries where there was the most rapid increase in new treatments for heart disease were also those in which death rates were falling fastest. However, it was impossible to tell which treatments, if any, were most effective.

It is unclear, in other words, whether it is the quality of medical care that counts or some other factor associated with it. The countries with the best medical care tended to be the wealthiest and it may be that the material quality of life played as big a part in reducing death as the treatments themselves.

There are two lessons from the Monica study. The first is that despite decades of research and the expenditure of hundreds of millions of pounds there is still a great deal we do not understand about the fast-

sized pump at the centre of our being. Yet to judge by the scientists' response to the finding you would think that it was all cut and dried. Just cut out smoking, check your blood pressure, reduce your cholesterol and you will be spared. As many people - some of them eminent heart specialists, themselves - who have led blameless lives and subsequently suffered heart disease know, it simply is not true.

The second lesson follows from the first. You cannot avoid heart disease in the way that you can avoid, say, lung cancer. If you do not smoke then the chances of your getting lung cancer are very, very small. But you may still succumb to heart disease even if you avoid smoking, drink a glass or two of claret, bicycle to work and follow all the other advice issued over the past two decades. It is clearly wise to heed the findings of earlier studies and steer clear of the lions and tigers but scientists do us a disservice if they fail to warn us that crocodiles may be about, too.

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## There is a thing called society

SOCIETY IS, once again, a key public issue. Sociologists in the Eighties felt that the idea of society was under threat. We inferred that our discipline was also under siege, and since we are no more altruistic than anyone else, feared for our careers. Things have changed since the last general election. The Labour Party has come to power with society emblazoned on its shield. The new leader of the Conservative Party, William Hague, has repented on its behalf and restored society to its vocabulary. Sad to say, you will not find sociologists rejoicing in the streets. It is not just that we are difficult to please. There always was a certain degree of posturing in our reaction to Margaret Thatcher's declaration that society does not exist. For sociologists would indeed be a happy bunch if we were all as convinced about society as the new generation of politicians. In the privacy of our lectures and obscurity of our learned papers we acknowledge that it is not intellectually unrespectable to question the existence of society. One of the pioneers of modern sociology,

Max Weber, was not even prepared to admit "society" as a scientific term. He argued that the social acts of individuals were the basic units for all sociological analysis.

Some of us actually welcomed Margaret Thatcher's remark for the extra frisson it gave to examining. Who could resist setting questions like: "Would Max Weber and Margaret Thatcher have agreed with one another, or would they each have been too anti-social to do so?"

Nor does questioning the existence of society simply betray the intrusion of ideology into science or, if it does, the contamination comes from the other end of the political spectrum too.

Alain Touraine, our radical French colleague, promotes the idea of sociology without society. He reminded us that this has been his own project since he gave a paper entitled "How to get rid of the idea of society". The view I advance is the opposite. Without the idea of society there is no sociology.

Political interest in society comes in waves. It happened in the 1980s and in the 1960s. "Society" is invoked in public



PODIUM

MARTIN ALBROW  
From a speech by the  
president of the Sociology  
Section to the British  
Association for Science  
conference, Cardiff

debate. Government and other powerful agencies search for the appropriate specialist expertise. The quest for knowledge about society seeks not just factual data which exists in abundance, if not always useful, supply, but good theory. For the moment the spotlight is off economics, not because it has failed, but because it has sensed its own limits. Poverty and unemployment have been redefined as issues of social ex-

clusion. While it may be the case that sociologists have a unique opportunity at present, it may also be true that they are unprepared to take it. If we ask what sociology offers for policy purposes today as a major theoretical resource, the answer broadly could be summed up as "communitarianism".

Communitarianism has become popular for supplying propositions about how society works and what its current state is. In brief, the "communitarian position" is that responsible social behaviour arises out of a framework of norms and values and these, in turn, stem from the experience of identifiable communities, which are based in families and look to other communities across shared institutions. In Amitai Etzioni's words, societies are "nothing but communities of communities".

The theory behind communitarianism is probably 50 years out of date.

The list of issues communitarianism fails to address is just too extensive for it to command the centre stage of policy thinking - class, social identity and difference, conflict, public order, religious fundamental-

ism, nationalism, new technology, the mass media, globalisation. When sociologists rework the idea of society to take account of the new social realities we need to remove the deeper premise in the logic of communitarianism, namely the belief that society depends above all on a membership bond between individuals and a particular community. Almost invariably this takes on a territorial basis.

Globalisation has produced a new situation for sociology because it has generalised the idea of society beyond any local, territorial arrangement. It forces us to conceptualise it in a way which is independent of every inference except that of the species and its environment. The world today pushes us, as it does in Anthony Giddens' work, towards discovering the pure concept of society.

Sociologists themselves are to my mind doing fundamental work today in recording and accounting for changes. But we need to promote theory if we are to achieve recognition of their reality and importance among policy makers.



# Does Clinton need sex therapy?



ANTHONY CLARE

*Is he a sick man, hooked into a repetitive series of sordid encounters despite his every effort to resist?*

IN THESE supposedly rational times, the spectacle of someone repeatedly engaging in sexual behaviour which is dangerously risky, and, potentially, exceedingly self-destructive, provokes many people to resort to some psychopathological explanation. Many see President Clinton as an Artful Dodger who just got caught, or just someone who, as Gore Vidal once memorably argued of powerful men, has more opportunity than most to seduce impressionable women.

The more psychologically minded wonder whether he is a sick man, unable to control his sexual impulses, hooked into a repetitive series of sordid encounters despite his every effort to resist - in other words, addicted to sex.

The problem with the indiscriminate application of the term "addiction" to unwanted, disreputable, or seemingly inexplicable and repetitive behaviour, is that it more often than not involves a circular argument. So, in relation to Bill Clinton's sexual activities, there is more than a touch of the "Clinton cannot keep his hands off pretty young women because he is addicted to sex - Clinton is addicted to sex because he cannot keep his hands off pretty young women" kind of reasoning. Nothing very much is explained by labelling Clinton's sexual indiscretions the result of an addiction, unless there is some additional, supporting evidence, distinct from the behaviour the label is supposed to explain.

In the mainstream, it is possible to detect a temptation to resort to the world of psychopathology and psychotherapy for cause-and-effect explanations - the President himself has spoken of "feeling pain, closure and healing" - and there has even been discussion as to whether he has sought, or been offered, psychiatric treatment. But it is a temptation, like all those other temptations, that might be better resisted.

Psychiatrists and psychologists, criminologists and philosophers, have all wrestled with the problems of impulse control for years now: problems of people peculiarly prone to relentless acts of mindless violence; repetitive stealing; fire-setting; pathological drinking; drugs and gambling. In the case of addiction to drugs and alcohol, there is supporting evidence of mind-altering effects of drugs such as opiates, alcohol, barbiturates and the benzodiazepines. Take enough of certain mind-altering drugs for long enough and then, when suddenly deprived of them, your body and mind experience a variety of well-recognised and distressing withdrawal symptoms.

Even here, however, there is room for argument. Modern cognitive therapists insist that it makes better sense to see the persistent misuse of alcohol, not as evidence of some physiological "addiction", but as a result of the way that the individual, over time, has learned to use the substance, taking into account the interaction between the individual's personality and the social and cultural context in which the

substance abuse occurs. Using such an argument, Clinton's sexual behaviour is not so much the result of some kind of physiological addiction, as the consequence of a learned view of masculine sexual activity, conditioned by the environment in which he developed, and a culture within which he works.

When it comes to addiction to work, shopping, food or sex, the problem becomes much more complicated. There is a dearth of consistent physiological findings to support true physical addiction, although there is much speculation concerning changes in brain neurotransmitter functions, endorphins (the opiate-like substances produced in the brain), and in amines such as serotonin and neuroadrenaline, believed to be highly important in the regulation of mood.

In the American Psychiatric Association's classification guide, the 4th edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual*, or DSM-4 as it is called, there is a section devoted to problems of impulse control. Sexual addiction does not figure, but there are references to kleptomania, pyromania and pathological gambling. In each of these activities, there is a common cluster of behaviours. First, there is a persistent failure to resist impulses to steal objects that are not needed for personal use or gain (kleptomania), to set fire to things (pyromania) or to gamble. Then, there is an increasing sense of tension immediately prior to performing the pathological behaviour, and pleasure, gratification or relief at the time of performing it. In the case of pathological gambling, there are repeated unsuccessful efforts to control, cut back or stop gambling, and lies to family members, therapists and others, to conceal the extent of involvement, and the individual's marriage, job, and educational or career opportunities, are invariably jeopardised because of the gambling.

Extrapolating from the categories of gambling or kleptomania to sex is not difficult, and there has been no shortage of experts prepared to do so in the case of President Clinton. There is the President's seeming inability to control his sexual impulses. There are the lies, evasions, justifications and deceptions. There is the very obvious risk and jeopardy

to family, public status and job. There may, or may not be, various psychological and physiological tensions prior to his indulging the behaviour, and relief, additional to sexual relief, afterwards. But the question begged by this purely descriptive approach is the question that the categories are supposed to be all about: how far can Clinton be said to have some impairment of control over his behaviour?

We know he didn't control it. But do we know whether he wanted to control it, whether he tried repeatedly to control it, and repeatedly failed?

And this is where it starts to become even more complicated. Despite the enormous detail concerning Clinton's sexual behaviour contained in the Starr Report, we don't know that much of Clinton's own view of it. The President has spent so much time lying and deflecting and denying, that it is not possible to conclude, with any confidence, whether he himself felt he could not control himself, or believed that he really did not have to.

It is an important distinction. Monica Lewinsky's account does suggest that he tried to terminate the relationship on 19 February 1998, because he "no longer felt right about their intimate relationship", but within six weeks they were meeting again. Could he have stopped? Did he have distressing physiological and psychological symptoms when he refrained from seeing her? Did he have a sexual relationship with anyone else in the meantime? And does any of this really matter now, since, addicted or not, Clinton now has little choice but to cease his impulsive behaviour?

But, yes, it does matter - for the sting in the tail of the addiction argument, if one can put it so inelegantly, is that it plainly categorises the President as a pathologically sick man who needs therapy. And the therapy he needs is plainly more than the spiritual ministry provided by the Reverend Jesse Jackson and his friends. It also has profound implications for the presidency, in that it suggests that the man with responsibility for the security of America, and indeed the world, suffers from a pathological inability (as distinct from a chosen refusal) to control his impulses.

Many may prefer to accept that Clinton freely chose to involve himself in repeated sexual encounters with a 21-year-old White House employee, rather than being helpless and in the grip of a pathological disturbance of behaviour. Anyway, we will almost certainly never know Clinton's sexual motivation, for even if he were to tell us, we would not know whether to believe him.

More repetitive than the sexual behaviour, is a pattern of lying, going back to whether or not Clinton had been drafted, and before. To speak of pathological lying might be semantically more accurate than to speak of sexual addiction. And it may be the lying rather than the sex that will bring the President down.



Bill Clinton prepares to put his case to the American people in his television address

## RIGHT OF REPLY

ROGER LYONS



The General Secretary of the MSF union replies to Trade Secretary Peter Mandelson

YESTERDAY, YOU quoted Peter Mandelson as saying that we are "partners in creating a modernised and fair society". Splendid! This is exactly what we have been working towards.

MSF members want to be involved, to be consulted and to have influence. They are skilled and professional people who have the ideas, knowledge and the commitment to make Britain's industries and services the best in the world, in an economy based on high skills and partnership.

At present most of our members feel excluded. Excluded from the decisions that affect them most - the future of their own jobs. MSF believes the way forward and the way to safeguard their jobs is to work together as partners.

To be globally competitive as a country requires all of us to play our part. It is especially vital that our manufacturing industry competes globally to provide the wealth our society needs to deliver the promises of new Labour. In this the government obviously has a role.

I agree with what Peter Mandelson says - there are limits on national economic policy in the new environment, but the government can play a role in re-invigorating a flagging national economy. The current high interest rates are affecting the ability of industry to invest and therefore holding back British industry. It is not just unions that are saying this but also the employers.

So it is with real disappointment that I read that Peter opposes our view that growth should be considered as part of the criteria for fixing interest rates. I urge him to think again.

Manufacturing companies up and down the land are facing difficulties. The government will be judged by its success in developing this vital part of our economy. I am sure it is a test that they will pass in partnership with unions and employers.

# Patten ducks mandarin attacks

IF EVER a book was in the eye of the storm, then *East and West* is it. As the last governor of Hong Kong, Chris Patten spent five years locking horns not just with the Chinese government, but also with a group of Whitehall mandarins and their parliamentary sympathisers, who considered his espousal of democratic rights for the colony ill-judged. Then came an unwholesome and much-publicised row when Patten delivered his manuscript to its commissioning publishers, HarperCollins. The proprietor, Rupert Murdoch, decided to reject what Patten had written, reputedly without having read a word of it.

The immediate upshot was that, while the book went to Macmillan for a yet bigger advance, Murdoch lost the services of his gifted publishing director, Stuart Proffitt. In Hong Kong, meanwhile, the situation has started to deteriorate faster than anyone dared fear. Partly this is due to the general meltdown in Asian markets; but partly the new authorities have already shown an interventionist hand. Speculation by governmental investors and cronyism have both appeared as new features in the Hong Kong cauldron.

Given the noise that preceded it, Patten's book is almost bound to disappoint. Whatever else it may be, it certainly is not a blow-by-blow account of the wrangles that plagued his gov-



## TUESDAY BOOK

EAST AND WEST  
BY CHRIS PATTEN, MACMILLAN, £20

ernorship, though he hints darkly that the truth, were it known, would be found unbelievable. He has something to say about his term of office, but the reader will search in vain for any mention of, say, Sir Percy Cradock, chief among that Whitehall clique who, as Patten sees it, advocated a policy of self-abasement towards Beijing.

Rather Patten, as elder statesman-in-waiting, elects for circumspection. Only Murdoch comes in for a killing punch. Patten reminds us that the Australian once boasted that his sort of broadcasting represents an unambiguous threat to totalitarian regimes, but subsequently "reacted unambiguously to objections from Peking (sic) by booting the BBC from his satellite channels".

Touche. Was this included in the manuscript originally delivered to HarperCollins? Mainly, *East and West* is an extended exposition of Patten's own political philosophy within the context of his Hong Kong experience, decked out with snatches of autobiography and repeated praise of the Beijing regime. In essence, Patten is a Butlerite with a fierce faith in free trade and liberal economics as the universal panacea for all the world's ills, including human-rights abuses.

Heading his list of priorities is the rule of law: the impartial guarantor of both economic and civic health. His key questions are whether such a package can be exported Asia-wide, and how disruptive to the emerging global order any sectional (ie Chinese) rejection of it may be.

By insisting on the universal applicability of his recipe, Patten begs both answers. It is in its detail, however, that some of his argument falters. In his most provocative chapter, "Asian Values", he adroitly hobbles a silly stalking horse. "Asian Values" is shorthand for the devil-may-care attitude that has supposedly attended the fast-track expansion of Far Eastern economies. But while Patten demonstrates that there is noth-

ing uniquely or even especially Asian about the rapidly in question, he allows this conclusion to blind him to real cultural differences between East and West.

As his book fans out to take in all Asia, though, curiously not Japan in any meaningful degree, he is at his weakest when considering Confucianism. Confucius, he suggests, is also a bit of a myth. Quoting selectively from the Analects, he attempts to show that Confucius too was a liberal. But what Confucius in fact said (a matter of mending debate) is very nearly irrelevant. What matters is Confucianism as an actual historic paradigm that explains, among other marvels, the predilection for command economies among its followers.

Patten's discussion avoids mention of command economies as such. Nor does it properly

identify another main prop of Asian economic growth: cheap labour. The two surges in Hong Kong's economy both depended on it, as well as on massive capital injections, particularly from Japan and the US. The colony's own cheap labour fuelled the boom in the 1980s, and Guangdong province's that of the 1990s. So this is an unaccountable oversight.

Such shortcomings place Patten's book somewhat in the common ruck of Asia surveys, even though most readers will warm to its author as his account progresses. His greatest error, however, is the most pervasive. Contrary to liberal ideology, human rights are conventions, and as such have to be sold wherever they do not already exist. Patten's incessant war against Beijing, however principled, may impede their sale where to him they matter most.

Conversely, East and West will certainly be taken most seriously in the occident. A large commission is already on its way to Australia. Whether it will also appear in Hong Kong is the immediate test to come. If the new authorities are very lucky, Murdoch will buy up all the bookshops there and spare their blushes.

JUSTIN WINTLE



Chris Patten: an elder statesman in waiting?

## TUESDAY POEM

A MAP OF LOVE  
BY DONALD JUSTICE

Your face more than others' faces  
Maps the half-remembered places  
I have come to while I slept -  
Continents a dream had kept  
Secret from all waking folk  
Till to your face I awoke,  
And remembered then the shore,  
And the dark interior.

From Donald Justice's *Orpheus Hesitated*  
Beside the Black River: poems 1952-1997 (Anvil, £8.95). Anvil Press celebrates its 30th birthday this autumn. Our poems this week come from its latest titles.

## Oxfam Flood Appeal

# EMERGENCY

Right now in Bangladesh 20 million people face malnutrition and fatal diseases.

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Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms

Address

Postcode

Please send to: Oxfam, Room BB13, FREEPOST, Oxford OX2 7BR

Flood Appeal Line 01865 313131





# George Wallace

FOR MOST of his political career George Wallace, four times Governor of Alabama and twice a major contender for the White House, was the living epitome of the racist Democrat politics of the old south. True, changing realities would later force him to recant, so successfully that he even managed to persuade a fair proportion of black voters to support him. But it was as a diehard white supremacist and segregationist, and eloquent foe of Washington and all its interventionist works, that he became a legend. That too was how he made his greatest mark upon American politics.

George Wallace Jr was born a farmer's son in arguably the most racist state in Dixie. He attended local schools until he was 18, when he enrolled at the University of Alabama Law School in 1937. Soon afterwards his father died, and George Jr was forced to pay his own way through college by working in restaurants, driving a taxi and by boxing professionally. He had twice won the state's Golden Gloves title at bantamweight in 1935 and 1936. Immediately after taking his law degree, he signed up for the air force. Although an attack of spinal meningitis cut short pilot training, he served with distinction as a flight engineer on a B-29 bomber in the Pacific and saw much action over Japan.

When he returned home in 1946, not only the law but politics beckoned. After serving as assistant state attorney general, he was elected to the Alabama legislature, where his skills as both orator and lawmaker were quickly in evidence. Wallace sponsored bills in education, crime and health care. Indeed, by the standards of the day he was a progressive—except in matters of race. Elected to the state judiciary in 1953, he soon became known as the "Fighting Judge" for his opposition to civil rights and federal efforts to stamp out discrimination against black voters. But the segregationist, it would transpire, would not be segregationist enough.

By 1958 Wallace had set his sights on the Governorship. He was defeated however by John Patterson in the Democratic party primary that year. Patterson had the support of the Ku Klux Klan, and Wallace forever blamed the defeat on his opponent having "out-segged" him; never again, he vowed publicly, would he be "out-niggered" by any-

one. Four years later he swept the primary (in effect the general election, given the Democrats overwhelming numerical superiority in the state), after a campaign in which one paper described him as "a one-man army at war with the federal government".

Wallace made his intentions plain in his inaugural address with the famous pledge of "Segregation now! Segregation tomorrow! Segregation forever!" The governor had proclaimed war on the burgeoning civil rights movement—or in his own words "tossed the gauntlet before the feet of tyranny." Five months later, on June 12, 1963, just as he had promised during the campaign, he personally blocked the door to two black students as they tried to enter the main campus of the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa. It was a pivotal moment in America's civil rights struggle. President Kennedy placed the Alabama National Guard under federal authority and ordered it to escort the students into the building. Wallace was forced to step aside. The students duly enrolled, and that evening President Kennedy declared on national television that "there is no place in American life or law."

But the setback, and the subsequent civil rights acts pushed through by President Lyndon Johnson only galvanised Wallace. Having been defeated at state level, he would carry the fight to Washington directly. He installed his wife in the Montgomery state house, renounced the Democratic party and entered the 1968 Presidential race as leader of a newly-created American Independence Party. He was a compelling speaker, who touched chords of resentment everywhere, and played upon Americans' deep-rooted suspicions of Big Government, at the very moment when Big Government was the doctrine of the day. Remarkably he won a place on the ballot in all 50 states. In the end, he won 9.3 million votes (13.5 per cent of the electorate) and carried five southern states with 46 electoral college votes.

It was the best showing by a third party candidate since Teddy Roosevelt and the Bull Moose election of 1912. Wallace had proved he could attract support outside the traditional south and arguably helped deny Hubert Humphrey the White House in the process. Most assuredly however, he set in motion the



Wallace addressing a rally at a shopping centre in Maryland on 15 May 1972, the day he was shot by a gunman

UPI

break-up of Franklin Roosevelt's historic Democratic coalition of northern workers and liberals and southern conservatives. The success of Wallace the populist, the articulator of the grievances of the little man, was not lost upon Richard Nixon and later Republican strategists. The old Confederacy gradually switched its allegiance to the party

Presidency again in 1972, this time as a Democrat. The campaign was prospering, with victories in several southern primaries and solid showings in the north, when on 15 May 1972 Arthur Bremer, a 21-year-old from Milwaukee, attempted to assassinate him during a rally at a shopping centre in Laurel, Maryland.

Wallace made his intentions plain in his inaugural address with the famous pledge of 'Segregation now! Segregation tomorrow! Segregation forever!'

of his nemesis Abraham Lincoln. Not until an all-Southern Democratic ticket in 1992 would the balance be redressed—and then only in part.

But Wallace was not done. In 1970, and a Democrat once more, he was elected Governor for a second term, having campaigned on a virulent anti-black platform: "If I don't win, then niggers are going to control this state." He warned at rallies across Alabama. So successful was he that he decided to contest the

primaries in both Maryland and the industrial state of Michigan. It was the highwater mark of his national political career. Indeed, in a weak and fractured Democratic field, a fit Wallace would have had a real chance of capturing the nomination. But though he survived, he was paralysed in both legs and thereafter confined to a wheelchair. The quest for the Presidency was over. And along with his physical circum-

stances, his political stance began to change as well.

Not only did his injury, and the intense physical pain from which he often suffered, confer a new respectability upon Wallace; they also seemed to give him a new respect for black Americans. The difference was already visible in 1974, when he won the Governorship for a third term. The firebrand orator had mellowed, the image he projected was for the first time clearly anti-racist. But it was not until 1983, when after a four-year "retirement" at the University of Alabama he again sought the governor's mansion in Montgomery, that the new Wallace was truly forged. He won a record fourth term and, bolstered by wide support in the black community, 61 per cent of the vote.

The tone was set by his fourth inaugural in January 1983, 20 years almost to the day from "Segregation forever!" Wallace promised "justice and mercy" to all: a nation that "forgets its poor will lose its soul." He publicly apologised to the black community for his past racism and hostility to civil rights. The ironies fell over one another—never more so than when he crowned a black homecoming queen at the very university he had once vowed would remain all-white for ever. The "Fighting Judge" eventually appointed record numbers of blacks to state jobs.

Alabama would remain one of America's most backward states. But the rules of the old south applied no longer. The enfranchisement of blacks, and the steady population migration from the north to the "sun-belt" had changed the political face of its cities. Across the countryside, the old ways might live on, but produced too few votes to matter.

George Wallace to his credit understood this. "We thought it was in the best interests of all concerned, but we were mistaken," he said of segregationism in 1982. "The old south is gone." In 1986 he announced his retirement, and his final years were punctuated by illness, and ravaged by Parkinson's disease. But to the last Wallace's courage was indomitable. As for his legacy, Jimmy Carter, a fellow southern Governor who did become President put it best. "George Wallace's life helped define and reflect the political life of our region."

RUPERT CORNWELL

George Corley Wallace, lawyer and politician; born Clon, Alabama 23 April 1919; Governor of Alabama 1963-67, 1971-79, 1983-87; married 1943 Lurleen Burns (died 1963; one son, three daughters), 1971 Coretta Ekins Shively (marriage dissolved 1978), 1981 Liza Taylor (marriage dissolved 1987); died Montgomery, Alabama 13 September 1998.

# Anthony Loveday

ANTHONY LOVEDAY made outstanding contributions to university librarianship in Britain and many Commonwealth countries, and was untiring in his services to the Standing Conference of National and University Libraries (Scnul) in Britain.

He was a stickler for doing things in the correct way. It was he who initiated moves to establish firmly and certainly Scnul's legal status by registering it as a charity and a company limited by guarantee. As long as he was present in his secretarial role, flagging committee members itching to get home at the end of a long day could not hope for remission by taking short cuts, or by deferring or fudging decisions. He could be sharp, especially with those he regarded as bores or time-wasters, but there was always present an underlying amiability and good humour which quickly overcame any brusqueness.

Loveday was born in Manchester, the youngest of three children, to Joseph Loveday, a bacteriologist. After leaving Ampleforth, he went up to Christ's College, Cambridge in 1943, but broke off his studies to take part in the war, entering the Royal Navy in 1944, and serving in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). At the end of the war he returned to Cambridge and graduated in English in 1948. Following a brief spell at the National Central Library, London (later incorporated into the British Library) he attended the postgraduate School of Librarianship and Archives at University College London in 1949-50 where he obtained a Diploma in Librarianship.

It was Loveday's intention to go into special libraries—industrial or commercial libraries attached to large firms—and information bureaux but in 1950 he secured an assistant librarianship at University College London where he took charge of the book order department. He stayed in the university sector for the rest of his career. However, his interest in special libraries with its emphasis on the organisation, classification and retrieval of information left its mark. A first-class administrator, he was always looking for ways of improving library routines and processes.

For personal and professional reasons—he found the cautious British university library world of the 1950s restrictive—he decided to go overseas. In 1957 he took up a post in the University of Malaya at Singapore as an assistant librarian. He returned to England two years later and in 1960 became an assistant librarian in the University of London Library.

His appointment in 1962 as deputy librarian at Makerere University in Uganda began a decade of librarianship in Africa. Three years later he became the founding librarian of the University of Zambia and was responsible for planning its new library building. He was a prominent figure in moves to further co-operation among libraries in both Zambia and East Africa as a region. Loveday finally returned to England in 1972 to a job that might have been made for him. The generally higher profile of universities after their expansion in the 1960s had persuaded Scnul that it needed a full-time secretary and Loveday was appointed to this new post in 1972. The Scnul office had traditionally been located in the library of the incumbent honorary secretary. When Loveday took up the appointment the office was in Cardiff but it was moved to London in 1973.

Over the next 17 years, by developing contacts with civil servants and vice-chancellors, Loveday was instrumental in moving Scnul from a rather inward-looking and exclusive body into an outgoing organisation concerned with voicing the views and requirements of university libraries in the context of the national provision of higher education. He also encouraged the full participation of the national libraries element in Scnul and opened up greater communication between Scnul and other library bodies such as the Library Association.

Through the International Federation of Library Associations (Ifla) he developed links with foreign university libraries. Moreover, perhaps to a greater extent than he knew, he helped to give Scnul the flexibility and resilience that it would need to absorb the financial stringencies and structural changes in higher education in the 1990s.

Anthony Loveday loved to be at the centre of things. He revelled in the social side of meetings and conferences. He enjoyed music, Mozart was his favourite composer, and he looked forward to his annual visits to Glyndebourne. Most of all, however, he loved ballet. For his Diploma in Librarianship he presented a bibliography of the Beaumont Press and he was delighted when Darcy Russell came to live opposite him.

TONY BOWLER

Anthony Joseph Loveday, librarian; born Manchester 20 November 1925; Secretary, Standing Conference of National and University Libraries 1972-89; died London 28 August 1998.

# Yang Shangkun

"PEOPLE SAY my hands are stained with blood," said Yang Shangkun plaintively at a private dinner a year after the army attack on Tiananmen Square. The table fell silent, one of the guests reported later. President Yang repeated his remark. Still no one dared break the stunned silence. The second most important man in China had uttered a terrible but not sellable truth: the bloodshed around Tiananmen on 3-4 June 1989 still clung to his name like an indelible stain.

Rightly or wrongly, Yang Shangkun is the man most closely associated in the minds of ordinary Chinese with the decision to use lethal force against student protesters. His was the voice that, on the night of 19 May 1989, boomed from loudspeakers around Tiananmen Square and from television sets across China: "To restore normal order and stabilise the situation there is no choice but to move units of the People's Liberation Army to the vicinity of Peking... If this state of affairs is allowed to continue then our capital will not be a capital."

From that moment until the final assault nearly two weeks later, President Yang, acting in tandem with Prime Minister Li Peng, was the principal public spokesman for a hardline military response to China's biggest explosion of dissent since the 1949 revolution.

That Yang played a key role in the 4 June crackdown is beyond doubt. As Vice-Chairman of the Communist party's Central Military Commission, he took the lead in rallying waverers within the military. "We can no longer retreat. We must launch an offensive," he told a crucial closed-door meeting of senior officers in Peking on 24 May. If anyone declined, he warned, they would be "punished according to military law". In China, that could mean a bullet in the back of the neck. Students and other protesters were themselves never in any doubt about Yang's role. Tiananmen was filled with posters attacking him by name and caricatures portraying him as a bloodthirsty warlord.

If anything, though, President Yang's position at the centre of pop-

ular demonology overstates his own importance and underestimates what had long been the key to his political career: his friendship with and loyalty to Deng Xiaoping. It was Deng, not Yang, who decided to call in the army and again Deng who took the fatal decision to open fire when crowds of protesters blocked their way. Some even say Yang initially sided with the conciliatory policy of the then party secretary Zhao Ziyang. Whatever his reservations, though, he quickly and enthusiastically fell into line once his long-time associate and fellow Long March veteran Deng Xiaoping fixed a course of confrontation rather than conciliation.

The precise date of Yang's first contact with Deng is not known. According to perhaps tainted but not necessarily untrue reports from Taiwan, it was President Yang's brother, Yang Xingong, who first introduced the young Deng Xiaoping to the Communist party in Shanghai in the 1920s. Like Deng, Yang was born in the inland province of Sichuan and joined the Communist cause in his late teens.

Sent to Shanghai to study in 1935, Yang joined the Communist youth league and left two years later to study in Moscow at the Sun Yat-sen University, a Soviet-sponsored training ground for China's revolution. Deng too studied there briefly but left before Yang arrived. After four years of study in Moscow, Yang returned to China in 1931, a member of the "Group of 28 Bolsheviks" dispatched by Stalin to reorganise China's struggling Communist cause.

What is notable about Yang's Moscow experience, however, is how quickly he forgot what Stalin's teachers had taught him and how nimbly he avoided the cloud that would later fall on many of his former classmates. Sent back to China to run the political department of the First Red Army in the Communist base area of Jiangxi, he came into contact for the first time with the home-grown revolutionary theories and military tactics of Mao Tse-tung. Mao's views, which stressed rural guerrilla rather than conventional warfare, were vindicated when, in



Yang (right) with Jiang Zemin in the Great Hall of the People, 1991

AFP

1934, advancing Kuomintang troops forced the battered Red Army to leave its fortified encampments and embark on the epic Long March.

The Long March confronted Yang with what was probably the most important decision of his entire career: should he support Mao's right to run the revolution as he saw fit or side with fellow Moscow-educated "Bolsheviks"? He chose the former. In January 1935, he took part in the critical Zunyi Conference, allying himself with Mao against the Comintern-appointed German advisor Otto Braun and the party's pro-Russian faction led by Bo Gu and Wang Ming. The details of Yang's role at the meeting—also attended by Deng—are not known but he somehow managed to convince Mao that he was a loyal ally and thus escape subsequent purges of the Moscow faction.

Wounded by bomb splinters in his leg during a Kuomintang air-raid, Yang emerged from the Long March a member of the party elite that would dominate Chinese politics for the next 50 years. Compared with Mao, Chou En-lai, Liu Shaoqi and others, however, he remained a relatively minor member of this elite—though recent propaganda has sought to glorify his role. Moreover, for a man so intimately associated with the military in subsequent years, he had surprisingly little combat experience.

Like Deng Xiaoping, he devoted himself to political and ideological work rather than battle tactics. No great victories are linked to his name and he spent most of the war against Japan leading a drama troupe rather than soldiers. But his loyalty to Mao, like that to Deng

decades later, was not without reward. In 1945, he was promoted to secretary-general of the party's military commission and, four years later, became director of the party's general office, a post he would keep for 17 years and which cemented his ties to Deng, the party's secretary general from 1956.

His close links with the party apparatus and intimate knowledge of its party's secrets, however, were later to prove his undoing. By the mid-1960s Mao had grown bitterly distrustful of the party's institutionalised bureaucracy and turned on his former friends and battle comrades with vengeful fury.

The result was the Cultural Revolution. Yang was one of its first victims. Arrested in July 1966, he was accused of plotting "underground" activities, condemned as a "black

general" and subjected to a harrowing "struggle session" before hundreds of thousands of Red Guards. Accusations ranged from spying for both the Russians and the Americans, for whom he supposedly tapped Mao's phone lines. Jailed for longer than any other Long March commander, he was held for 12 years until 1979, when Deng had him rehabilitated and sent to help repair the wreckage of the Cultural Revolution in the southern province of Guangdong.

When Deng needed a safe pair of hands to help him run the military in 1981, he called Yang back to Peking and made him Secretary General of the all-important Central Military Commission. Having won Deng's favour and trust, he continued his ascent, winning a politburo post and further promotion within the military commission the following year and the title of state president in 1988. Apparently a man of firm convictions of his own beyond loyalty and self-preservation, he promoted Deng's notions of economic reform and helped clear the way for a radical reorganisation and streamlining of the military.

Despite his growing importance as Deng's right-hand man, however, he failed to make much of an impression on ordinary Chinese. Many, particularly intellectuals, mocked his foppish dress, his jovial, often coarse manner, and reputation as an ageing playboy. For many he was a buffoon, a powerful one but hardly a man of weight. Then, in June 1989, the joking stopped.

Overnight, Yang Shangkun became perhaps the most hated man in China. He had performed the ultimate act of loyalty—when Deng said open fire he obeyed.

ANDREW HIGGINS

Yang Shangkun, revolutionary and politician; born Shuangjiang, Tongshan County, Sichuan Province, China 1907; Member, Communist Party China 1925-30; Member, Central Committee 1956-66; President of the People's Republic of China 1988-93; married 1935 Li Bozhao (died 1985); died 14 September 1998.

09/11/2015



## Leonid Kinskey



Kinskey with Betty Grable in *Down Argentine Way*, 1940

ONE OF Hollywood's most distinctive character actors, often known as "The Mad Russian", Leonid Kinskey was a lanky, shock-haired eccentric with a wrinkled brow and wide grin who specialised in comic continentalisms with fractured English and manic enthusiasm. Among his most memorable portrayals were the barman who effusively kisses Humphrey Bogart in *Casablanca*, the gigolo who takes Betty Grable on the town in *Down Argentine Way* and one of the unwieldy professors in *Ball of Fire*. Occasionally he would be cast in less genial roles, and was chillingly effective as the oily informer in *Algiers* and a swivelling coward in *So Ends Our Night*.

Though his countrymen often assumed that he was American ("When I played Russians in the movies they made me so exaggerated no real Russian would believe me"), Kinskey was actually born in St Petersburg in 1903. Sent out of Russia by his mother at 17 - "I belonged to a group of people that was not wanted after the Revolution" - he toured South America as a mime with the acclaimed Firebird Theatre, which specialised in bringing famous paintings to life through mime and dance.

When the company flopped in New York, Kinskey found himself stranded with no money or knowledge of English. He worked as a waiter in Manhattan then managed to get a role in a silent film, *The Great Deception* (1926), starring Aileen Pringle and Ben Lyon, but when most of his part was cut out he found work in Chicago running a theatre-restaurant with a Russian theme. After the stock market crash caused the restaurant to close, Al Jolson hired Kinskey to appear in the touring version of his show *Wonder Bar*.

While it was playing in Hollywood, Kinskey was spotted by the director Ernst Lubitsch, who signed him for a brief cameo as a Russian peasant in the exquisite comedy *Trouble in Paradise* (1932). It was an exaggerated portrayal of an agitated radical who repeatedly exclaims "Phooey" to socialite Kay Francis, who is reassured by her lover Herbert Marshall that "his phooey is less than his bite", and it set the pattern for many of his later roles caricaturing foreigners, such as his delightfully eccentric composer in *On Your Toes* (1939).

His own favourite role was in the Bing Crosby musical *Rhythm on the Range* (1936) in which Kinskey bizarrely took part in introducing the song standard, "I'm An Old Cowhand". Other films in which he featured include *Duck Soup* (1933), *We Live Again* (1934), another serious role as a murder victim, *Les Misérables* (1935), *The Merry Widow* (1935), *100 Men and a Girl* (1937), *The Great Waltz* (1938), *Flirting with Fate* (1938), in which he and comic Joe E. Brown duetted on "Sweet Adeline", *That Night in Rio* (1941) and *Cori Bop* (1944), in which he was one of

a pair of bumbling confidence tricksters attempting to swindle Deanna Durbin.

Kinskey was one of the last surviving members of the cast of the enduring classic *Casablanca* (1942). He claimed that Bogart got him the role of Sacha the bartender after the original actor Leonid Kinskey was fired for lacking the requisite humour. "We used to

Sacha is so moved by Bogart's arranging a passport for a young couple desperate to leave that he kisses Bogart on both cheeks as he exclaims, "Boss, you did a wonderful thing to which Bogart responds, "Get away from me!" Kinskey appeared in over 70 films. He supplemented his income by writing articles and short stories for Russian pub-

*Hogan's Heroes*, a comedy series about the Second World War, but declined to sign for the series, stating, "The premise was to me both false and offensive. Nazis were seldom dumb and never funny."

Kinskey married his late wife Iphigenia Castiglioni four times. "It started in Mexico City," said Kinskey, "and then over 20 years of our happy marriage we celebrated every five years by taking a new marriage licence in a different country." Castiglioni, a Viennese beauty who died in 1963, was also in movies - she played Empress Eugénie in both *The Story of Louis Pasteur* (1936) and *Maytime* (1937) and was the Bird Woman in Hitchcock's *Rear Window* (1954).

When movie roles dried up this last was in *Glory*, 1956, Kinskey wrote and directed industrial films for major corporations. "To dramatise a machine or product requires a great deal more ingenuity to keep it going than a well-written scene played by able actors," he stated. The man whom columnist Louella Parsons once called "the maddest Russian on land or sea" also frequently travelled to Palm Springs to visit old friends from Hollywood's Russian colony.

TOM VALLANCE

*Kinskey married his wife Iphigenia Castiglioni four times. 'It started in Mexico City, and then over 20 years we celebrated every five years by taking a new marriage licence in a different country'*

drink together, Bogart, Ralph Bellamy and myself at Mischa Auer's house at least three times a week," said Kinskey.

We were all good drinkers. Ralph Bellamy was a good-looking guy. We thought he was the one who was going to be a star. And I said to myself about Bogart, "He's short, he speaks with a lisp. And he's not a good-looking guy so what chance does he have?" When Bogart asked me to be in *Casablanca*, I knew I was replacing an actor who had been thought too heavy, speechwise, and they wanted something very light.

In a memorable scene Kinskey as

lications. During the Second World War he worked with the Soviets in choosing Hollywood movies for showing in the USSR. A television show he did in 1948 called *The Spotlight Club* is allegedly the first situation comedy ever on television. Kinskey was also a regular on Jackie Cooper's television series *The People's Choice* in the Fifties, and made appearances on the shows of Ann Southern, Spike Jones and others, but he refused to do commercials. A man of strong principles, he was featured in the pilot of

Leonid Kinskey, actor: born St Petersburg, Russia 18 April 1903; married three times, first Iphigenia Castiglioni (died 1963), third Tina York; died Fountain Hills, Arizona 8 September 1998.

### HISTORICAL NOTES

BENNETT MAXWELL

## The Emperor of the Sahara



Jean Raspail claimed the Les Minquiers islands for the 'Kingdom of Patagonia'

THE ATTEMPT by a Frenchman to claim the Les Minquiers islands as part of the "Kingdom of Patagonia" is by no means the first effort of its kind. Perhaps the most spectacular occurred at the turn of the century, when the self-styled "Emperor of the Sahara" tried to establish an African state.

In June 1903 a French sugar millionaire, one Jacques Lebaudy, a dapper little man with a sharp nose and a shrill high-pitched voice who was said to have a personal fortune of some £2m, recruited a dozen Breton sailors and landed them on the coast of Spanish Morocco, commanding them to go forth and establish an empire. Lebaudy then informed the French authorities that he was henceforth to be addressed as Jacques I, Najin-al-Den, Emperor of the Sahara, Commander of the Faithful, King of Tarfaia, Duke of Arleuf and Prince of Chal-Huin. However, the sailors were soon captured by Arab traders, who attempted to ransom them. But Lebaudy refused to pay up. So the French sent a cruiser which shelled the coast, and the sailors escaped in the confusion.

The French government then issued a warrant for Lebaudy's arrest, and he travelled to The Hague, where he tried to bring his case before the International Court. Having failed, he moved to London and set up his "court" in the Savoy Hotel, where he was besieged by journalists and press photographers, by a host of actors, actresses, retired army and naval officers, waiters and labourers, all seeking employment, and by 300 to 400 tradesmen, including gunsmiths, flag merchants, a patent water filter firm, a weatherproof watch company and a corned-beef contractor.

Lebaudy commissioned "an enterprising young journalist" to edit his national newspaper, *Le Sahara*, which would report news of the court and promulgate the "Emperor's" laws and imperial decrees, he had banknotes printed in pale yellow, mauve and black, and he designed an imperial flag, the centre of which was adorned with three golden bees on a field of purple, beneath a crown surmounted by a cross supported by arches of gold set with pearls.

He enlisted a ship's carpenter living in Fulham as Deputy Commander of the Saharan Navy on a promised salary of £20 a month plus four shillings and sixpence for expenses, and appointed a retired

American colonel Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief. Lebaudy also commissioned a national anthem. When he entered the Savoy Restaurant, to dine at a table covered with a cloth of imperial purple with a crown of purple chrysanthemums suspended above, the orchestra would immediately cease whatever it was playing and strike up his imperial anthem.

Meanwhile, he announced that the official inauguration of the empire and the enthronement of its ruler would take place on 1 January 1904. This was to be a spectacular occasion: the desert was to be decorated with flags and artificial flowers, and the "Emperor", escorted by a hundred grenadiers, would "proclaim his future plans and receive anew the oath of allegiance which his subjects made to his officials".

The coronation would be followed by a solemn service in the newly built church. As night fell, the desert would be lit with lanterns and a fireworks display would provide a fitting climax. Unfortunately, nothing came of these grandiose plans, and Lebaudy eventually moved to New York, announcing that "the throne will remain in the Sahara, with nobody on it; but his Imperial Majesty wishes it to be known that usurpers will be severely dealt with".

One day in 1919 he arrived at his house on Long Island with the intention of sexually assaulting his teenage daughter and was met on the staircase by his "morganatic" wife, who promptly shot the "Emperor" dead.

Bennett Maxwell is writing the biography of Col George Edward Gouraud

## Socratic questions for today's society

AN EVENT in the year 399 BC shook I. F. Stone to his Jeffersonian core, horrified him.

"How could the trial of Socrates have happened in so free a society? How could Athens have been so untrue to itself?" These were the questions which occurred to him when, retiring from journalism, he embarked on what was to have been a study of freedom of thought throughout human history. The result, 16 years later, is this book which has aroused great interest and controversy in America and is today published here.

It is a work of what might be called "investigative scholarship". It applies to fifth-century Athens the technique which Stone practised in 20th-century Washington with his famous *Newsletter*. He was not the kind of reporter who made assignments with Deep Throats, rather who pored over the small print of official publications looking for sinister contradictions or traces of conspiracy.

The success of his *Newsletter* had largely to do with the sense it gave its readers of having a private line to the inside dope. Now Stone offers us the dope on Periclean Athens although, as Professor M.F. Burnyeat has pointed out, discrepancies between Plato and Xenophon cannot be properly treated in the same way as discrepancies between the Pentagon and State Department. That is the trouble with Stone: he is incurably addicted to conspiracy theory. It made him often wrong about modern Washington and, probably, wrong about ancient Athens. This last point must be left to the experts, although I am sure

that the philosopher (Socrates) knew better than the gods.

These were views thoroughly subversive of the state religion. In the year 399 BC Athenians could, in good conscience, have found Socrates guilty as charged of impiety and of corrupting youth.

This seems to me a much more convincing account than Stone's but, nevertheless, Stone's thesis serves his purpose. He doesn't let Socrates off one bit and with good reason, for the Socrates he depicts is a real pain.

Only he knew best, which was that even he didn't know. He claimed that the Oracle had named him wisest man in the city (the world) and he went around telling everybody, rubbing his own city, rubbing democracy, rubbing everything.

By making Socrates into such a hard case, Stone makes his point: Athens of all places ought not to have denied the right of free speech even to such a man, the self-proclaimed enemy of free speech. Stone concedes, moreover, that Athenians had good reason to regard Socrates as a political menace. Democracy remained under threat having twice been overthrown, once by Sparta and once by oligarchic gangs of what Stone calls "bully boys", tending to invoke the death squads of Argentina, El Salvador and Chile. But it is in such hard times, and against such hard cases, that liberty must stand its test. That is the uncompromisingly libertarian message of Stone's book. It is of sadly obvious relevance to Britain today.

From *The Independent*, Thursday 15 September 1998

On another interpretation of the man and his trial, the condemnation of Socrates can be justified. Socrates was a religious heretic, not a political subversive. He claimed, in effect,

### WORDS

CHRISTOPHER HAWTREE vendor, n.

agreed to refer to buyers and sellers. Whatever their other penchant for a circumlocution, estate agents were willing to do the same

"THERE APPEARS to be a willing vendor," remarked Gerald Kaufmann of the Murdoch/United deal. The politician missed his calling, for the noun is used only by estate agents. It otherwise survives only in vending-machine and news-vendor. The verb also meant to voice an opinion. A few years ago, solicitors

## GAZETTE

### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

#### DEATHS

JENKINS: The Rev Canon David M. of Ashby de la Zouch, formerly of Lantwit Major, a loving husband, father and grandfather, died 10 September 1998. A Requiem Service will be held at St Helen's Church, Ashby de la Zouch, on Monday 21 September at 11.15am. The funeral service will be held at St Mary's Church, Lantwit Major on Tuesday 22 September at 2.30pm, followed by burial of ashes in the churchyard. Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu of flowers, if so desired, for the Rectory, al Benefice of Lantwit Major and any enquiries may be made to J. P. Springthorpe & Co. Funeral Directors, Castle Lodge, South Street, Ashby de la Zouch, LE65 1BR. Telephone 01530 417310.

#### ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Duke of York presents the Professional Cricketers' Association Players of the Year Awards at the Lord's Indoor Cricket School, St John's Wood, London NW8.

#### CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, In memoriam) are charged at £8.50 a line (VAT extra).

#### BIRTHDAYS

Prince Henry of Wales, 14; The Rev Professor Peter Ackroyd, Emeritus Professor of Old Testament Studies, London University, 81; Mr Richard Arnell, composer, conductor and film maker, 81; Mr Charles Bone, painter and lecturer, 72; Professor John Russell Brown, professor of theatre, 75; General Eva Burrows, Salvation Army, 69; Mr Jackie Cooper, actor, 76; Mr Thomas Duggin, diplomat, 51; Lord Eden of Winton, former government minister, 73; Professor Brian Fender, chief executive, Higher Education Funding Council for England, 64; Mr Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, conductor, 66; Dr Richard Gordon, novelist, 77; Lord Harris of Peckham, company chairman, 58; Mr David Lepper MP, 53; Mr William Marsden, ambassador to Argentina, 53; Mr Clive Morrison, actor, 53; Mr Mark Moody-Stuart, chairman, the Shell Transport and Trading Co., 58; Miss Jessye Norman, soprano, 53; Viscount Norwich, architectural writer, 68; Mr Abdul Qadir, Pakistan cricketer, 43; Mr Glen Renfrew, former chief executive of Reuters, 70; Sir Clive Rose, former diplomat, 77; Sir Konrad Schiemann, a Lord Justice of Appeal, 61; Lady Soames (Mary Soames), writer, daughter of Sir Winston Churchill, 76; Mr Oliver Stone, film director, 52; Sir Peter Studd, former Lord Mayor of London, 82; Mr Graham Taylor, manager, Wolverhampton Wanderers FC, 54; Mr James Tidmarsh, Lord Lieutenant for Bristol, 66; Sir Richard Way, former university principal, 84; Professor Alan

Whitehead MP, 48; Sir John Williams, former diplomat, 76; Mr David Willmott, radio presenter and writer, 67.

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Trajan, Roman emperor, 98; Albrecht Wenzel Eusebius von Wallenstein, soldier and statesman, 1583; Titus Oates, impostor and fabricator of the "Popish Plot", 1649; Sophia Dorothea, Electress of Hanover, 1666; Baron Friedrich Wilhelm Ludolf Gerhard Baron von Steuben, Prussian general, 1730; John Campbell, first Baron Campbell, Lord Chancellor, 1779; Sir Francis Seymour Haden, surgeon and etcher, 1818; José de la Cruz Porfirio Díaz, Mexican leader, 1830; William Howard Taft, 27th US President, 1857; Bruno Walter (Schlesinger), conductor, 1876; Hans Arp, painter, engraver, sculptor and poet, 1887; Robert Charles Benchley, humorist, 1889; Agatha Mary Clarissa Christie, detective story writer, 1890; Frank Martin, composer, 1890; Jean Renoir, film director, 1894; Tom Conaway (Thomas Charles Sanders), actor, 1904; Margaret Mary Lockwood, actress, 1916.

Deaths: Sir Thomas Overbury, poet, poisoned while in the Tower of London 1613; Richard Boyle, first Earl of Cork, 1643; Sidney, first Earl of Godolphin, statesman, 1712; William Huskisson, statesman, run down by the locomotive *Rocket* 1830; Arthur Henry Hallam, historian, 1833; Isambard Kingdom Brunel, engineer, 1889; John Hanning Speke, explorer, shot by accident 1884; John Frederick Lewis, painter, 1876; William Seward

Burroughs, adding machine pioneer, 1836; José Echegaray y Eizaguirre, writer and scientist, 1916; Elias Kito Hocking, novelist, 1936; Thomas Clayton Wolfe, novelist, 1938; Anton Friedl, composer, 1945; Geoffrey Francis Fisher, Lord Fisher of Canterbury, former archbishop of Canterbury, 1972; Gustaf VI Adolf, King of Sweden, 1973.

On this day: General Howe took New York, 1776; to halt the French occupation, the Russians set fire to Moscow, 1812; Guatemala was declared independent, 1821; the Manchester and Liverpool railway opened, during which ceremony the world's first railway accident occurred (see Huskisson above), 1825; Sir George Cayley, aviation pioneer, described his glider, 1825; Jumbo, a famous circus elephant, was hit and killed by a goods train in Ontario, Canada, 1885; tanks were first used in battle by the British Army at the Somme, 1916; Russia was proclaimed a republic by Alexander Kerensky, 1917; in Germany, the Nuremberg laws were passed, outlawing Jews and making the Swastika the official flag of the country, 1935; Neville Chamberlain visited Hitler at Berchtesgaden over the Czech crisis, 1938; Konrad Adenauer was elected Chancellor of West Germany, 1949; Nikita Khrushchev began a 12-day visit to the United States, 1959; the first traffic wardens went on duty in London, 1960; *The Sun* newspaper was first published, 1964;

Today is the Feast Day of St Achard or Aichardus, St Catherine of Genoa, St Mirin.

St Nicetas the Goth and St Nicomedes.

#### LECTURES

National Gallery: Mari Grifith, "Picturing Women (II), The Mistress and the Wife: Madame de Pompadour and Queen Charlotte", 1pm. Victoria and Albert Museum: Sarah Bowles, "Furniture: Renaissance Italy", 2pm. Tate Gallery: Stuart Currie, "Three Colours Red: emotion in Tudor and Stuart painting", 1pm. British Museum: Della Pemberton, "Images of the Feminine in Buddhism", 1.30pm. National Portrait Gallery: John Cooper, "Remember Colonel Burnaby", 1.10pm. The Wallace Collection, London W1: Suzanne Higgott, "Maioica in the Wallace Collection", 1pm.

#### DINNERS

Board of Deputies of British Jews: The annual President's Dinner of the Board of Deputies of British Jews was held yesterday evening at Lincoln's Inn, London WC2. The Home Secretary, Mr Jack Straw MP, was the guest of honour. He was received by Mr Eldred Tabachnick QC, President of the Board. The Home Secretary presented Sir Sigmund Sternberg with the Community Service Medal for his outstanding service to interfaith work. Mr Larry Adler gave a musical presentation. Among those present were Mr Michael Howard QC, MP Shadow Foreign Secretary, Lord Clinton-Davis and Mr Dror Zeligman, the Ambassador of Israel.







# 'Was strange, our sweat mixed'

A courageous new novel breaks taboos to tell the secret story of a Caribbean sexual awakening. By Marina Salandy-Brown

**R**udeness! Wicked! Is that what you're sending out to people?" was the embarrassed response of Onya Kempadoo's nine-year-old son to the bits he saw of *Buxton Spice*, the compelling debut novel from a Caribbean woman writer.

It is a story of sexual awakening, in which the 12-year-old narrator, Lula, passes from happy, flat-chested, gangly ingénue to bra-wearing, sexually aroused teenager. The setting for what one publisher's rejection slip dubbed "too hot to handle" is a fictional village, Tamarind Grove, on the coast of Guyana. Lula and her friends come of age against the backdrop of the political oppression and violence of the Seventies.

When I was a child growing up in Trinidad, my two girl cousins and I would spy on our younger cousins playing doctor and nurse. We were shocked by what five-year-olds got up to. Nobody ever got to know about our own pre-pubescent half-innocent adventures between white cotton sheets during compulsory, grandmother-induced, "afternoon rests", from which we would emerge sweaty and nervous. We never spoke, even to each other, about them. Then Onya Kempadoo gives away all our secrets.

"There was a sound of movement from the other bed and I quickly stuck my head out from under the sheet. Judy was on top of Sammy already! We hadn't even kissed yet. I pulled my head back in, rolling on to Rachel, and wriggled up slightly until my bungee was in the right place and the battery was held between our two bones. We kissed now, hurrying, just pushing our lips together and keeping them there for a second. When I lifted my head and licked around my lips, she did too. Was strange, our sweat had mixed, wet and salty."

It doesn't often happen to me, nor to many people, I suspect, that I come across somebody else's writing which reveals entire parts of my personal history - from the rudeness to the bum-sliding along polished floors till my cheeks burnt, to intense conversations with the trees (not a *Buxton Spice* mango tree though, they don't grow in Trinidad). It is something of a shock. And this novel will shake up other people too, but for quite different reasons. She's a brave and talented woman who takes on the taboo subjects of sex, race, politics and violence in the Caribbean.

You have to have a lot of confidence to write the way Onya Kempadoo does, and you'd have to be wanting to ruffle a few people, too. But she doesn't look like a trouble-maker. She's warm, intelligent, funny, and has a contagious laugh. Dark brown eyes look right at you, and tell you how it is. There is no artifice in her, and no malice. And she doesn't look the sort to

do things for effect or necessarily to shock.

Did she do it because sex sells? "I knew sex sells, but not pre-sex, and I didn't set out to write for publication. The novel grew out of notes on the most powerful recollections of my childhood." She was aware of the predominance of the sexual memories, and decided to let the themes emerge, trying to make it as real and as honest as she could. "The challenge for me was to not put an adult perspective on it."

It is honest all right, but there's a the rule: Caribbean people just don't talk about these things. They tend to stop at double entendres and innuendo. "There is a lot of sex going on though," she says. "We know because of the number of single parents and teenage pregnancies. But there is a lot of duplicity, because of the conflict between religious values and the actual lifestyle that has emerged from the mixture of our European, African and Indian inheritance." She and I discuss for a little gossip about single women we know, who have active sex lives while living with their parents, without either party ever talking about it. They never spend the night out, either.

Kempadoo and her seven siblings were brought up differently. "We discussed everything. We were taught to go our own way, not to allow ourselves to be confined by race, politics or religion."

She was born in England in 1966, and her parents returned to Guyana when she was four. Her Indian father, who worked on rural development for the United Nations, refused to join in the ruinous race politics of Guyana. In the novel, Kempadoo describes the occasion when their house was searched, and her mother taken away by soldiers for not returning some foreign currency. Now, she's fallen out with her widowed father, because he's stopped practising what he preaches. She thinks he is not above sexism, that his ego is as big as any Caribbean man's. "It's sad that all that's still there in a man who had a bigger vision." Ms Kempadoo may appear to be young and fun-loving, but she takes no hostages.

"My mother put his principles into practice. I had a lot of respect for her." She taught the children at home, using books from a vast library, with shelves marked, Caribbean, Arts, Philosophy etc. For their writing lessons, she made them go outdoors for long periods, then come back in and write about what they'd observed. The young Kempadoo observed well. In *Buxton Spice*, she inhabits scenes with a powerful command of detail.

She shifts slightly on the leather sofa, but I don't flatter her by saying she really can write, that she has enviable descriptive powers and that she has triumphed in interweaving standard English and local



Onya Kempadoo, on the right, the author of 'Buxton Spice' and an outspoken lady with strong views, with Marina Salandy-Brown

Andrew Birman

dialect, which is broken English and the leftovers of some French-style constructions. She is delighted to hear that the lingo falls off her pen as easily as it did for the deceased Trinidadian writer, Sam Selvon: "the most underrated of writers - he used the right spelling of the word, but its positioning in the sentence is what gives you the lilt." Her sing-song

*I don't like how, in Britain, you have to be either this or that - being put into a category is all new to me*

accent is somewhere between Guyana and Trinidad, and I could hear myself sounding more and more like her. We both slip into a bit of lingo occasionally. And that's how *Buxton Spice* is: natural, like children's interest in sex.

She laughs her big laugh, and her mass of curls bobs around when I tell her about the fatigue among British critics with the dream world of magic realism. She finds writing like that boring to do, although she admires it. Her style is as free

as the thinking her parents encouraged. It's uncluttered, relaxed, and devoid of the laboured elegance of Arundhati Roy. Comparisons between the two don't go beyond the fact that she is a new woman's voice from a former colony, and that they share the same agent.

Kempadoo is eager to stick to the principle of not being pigeon-holed: "What do they mean when they ask me if I am a Caribbean writer? For me, writing is about trying to voice what hasn't been said, and to write about everyday matters in a way that anyone can relate to, anywhere in the world." We agree that she is a Caribbean writer to the extent that she lives there (just moved from Tobago to Grenada), and with her first novel has filled a gap in the body of work emerging from the region since the Fifties. "Writers don't often deal with simple everyday matters, and the joys of life. We get a lot of the woes of life under, or after, colonial rule. But ordinary contemporary life is not reflected there. And that was what I was trying to do."

Political correctness also gets short shrift from Ms Kempadoo. When sending out the manuscript to publishers, she added a note that the racial language might be offensive. "Both black and white may not like it, but part of the reason I live in the Caribbean is because

of people's spontaneity, and the natural way in which they deal with matters such as race. In the Caribbean, I'm a dougla (mixture of African and Indian), or a cootie (Indian), or I am not a nation - a mix-up."

Her mother's racial mix of European, African and native blood is similar to mine, and it shows in her features. She gets serious again. "I don't like how, in Britain, you have to identify yourself with this or that, and

being put into a category is new to me. I don't want to conform to those, or take part in them, because some of them I don't agree with, and because it creates boundaries."

Onya Kempadoo says she is not at all special, that you must put your mind to what you want to achieve, and believe in it. The faith of the ignorant together with the resourcefulness of the average Caribbean woman goes a long way, but not

even the most intrepid would take on the world's publishing industry. Whoever heard of an unconnected young woman, in a far off land, forcing six agents into vying to handle her, and managing to get four top publishers into an expensive auction for her first novel? She appointed her agent on the phone and by fax, and flew to London to interview the publishers. Now *Buxton Spice* will be published in Spain, Holland

and Italy. The puritanical Americans are waiting to see how what one of those publishing houses dubbed "unsuitable material" does in Europe before signing on the dotted line.

Kempadoo is sanguine. Whatever happens, she's put aside her profession of textile designing to get on with her second, scorchingly honest, tale of life in the Caribbean. I, personally, can hardly wait to be shaken up again.

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also appears on page 8.

## JOYS OF MODERN LIFE

13. POST-IT NOTES  
BY MAIT SEATON



were all about to be deluged by a torrent of phone messages, new fax numbers, changes of address, shopping lists, instructions to/from spouse/nanny/milkman, the Post-It Note plugged the hole in the dyke. It is, if you like, the graphic equivalent of our poor brains' overloaded short-term memory - a portable means of storing, temporarily but reliably, information that can later be recorded and filed properly or simply discarded.

there is no reason why your micro-memo should not also be an aesthetically pleasing experience. Inevitably, there is now an artist who works with Post-It Notes: Melynda Gierard used 60,000 in her 1998 work, *The Sampler*. I've only seen it on the Web, but *The Sampler* just looks like a wall covered in yellow paper scales. I don't think she has a problem with sponsorship, though. Actually, I prefer the frankly phillistine, late-Eighties attitude of the employees at a firm of City accountants. Not impressed by the boardroom's policy of collecting contemporary art, they used the abstract paintings as notice boards and stuck Post-It Notes all over them. But its own contemporaneity is the great beauty of the Post-It Note. For a product that came into existence by accident and failure - when its lateral-thinking inventor, Art Fry, found a use for some not-very-adhesive adhesive - the Post-It has established a remarkable and instant rapport with the spirit of the age. Think

about it: post-fordism, post-feminism, post-modernism. Post-It. If the Biro, with its functional purity and ease of mass production, was the great gift of modernism to the office environment, then the Post-It Note is post-modernism's gift to the office. And this brings me to what I love most about the Post-It Note - its McLuhanesque capacity to signify itself. Let me elaborate. You are sick of answering your colleague's phone and leaving messages on scraps of paper, whose receipt you subsequently overhear being vehemently denied when the unrequited caller rings back. Solution: write the message on a Post-It Note - name, number and instruction to "please call back" - and leave the Post-It stuck dead-square centre of said colleague's computer screen. Deniability denied. There it is, magnificently passive-aggressive in its reproachful yellow (or orange, blue or mauve) livery, its message nine-tenths submerged, like an iceberg but just as deadly. Decoded, it means: "Don't you dare claim you didn't get this... and shame on you for not returning calls!" No matter what you may scribble on the Post-It Note, the medium is the message.

**WHAT ON earth did people do before they had Post-It Notes?**  
It's like trying to imagine what life was like without disposable nappies, penicillin or electric light. Migrating from office to home, via the white-collar crime of stationery-cupboard larceny, those lemon-yellow squares with one sticky side have become so indispensable to modern life that to imagine an existence without them is to be pitched into ontological crisis. The first shining virtue of the Post-It Note is that it acts as a buffer between our fragile sense of order and the messy reality of everyday life. Can't find your Fildax? Never read the manual to your Psion? Never mind. Just write yourself a Post-It Note and stick it somewhere you're going to see it. Magically, the Post-It opens out a cool, neutral space between the twin poles of organisation and of chaos that govern our lives. No accident, then, that it was so successfully launched in the Eighties, the decade when life mutated out of what had been for most of the post-war period - a steady round of work and leisure - and into a continuous and escalating study in stress management. Just as we



## HEALTH

There's  
a killer  
on the  
run...

Meningitis is the disease that every parent dreads. But the fightback has begun. By Jeremy Laurance

Good news is not what we have come to expect from meningitis. It is a fearsome disease, dreaded equally by parents and doctors, trailing tales of tragedy, not triumph. Parents worry for their children about a disease that attacks with unnerving speed and ferocity, and doctors worry for their reputations, for it is notoriously easy to miss. Lucy Prescott's symptoms were diagnosed as tonsillitis, after which she was prescribed antibiotics and painkillers. Two days later, she was critically ill in hospital, although she went on to make a full recovery.

Yet, there is encouraging progress in the battle against meningitis. The war is far from over but advances are being made against one of the most devastating illnesses of modern times. Today, Tessa Jowell, the health minister, will climb aboard a London bus full of children who have survived meningitis to mark the launch of this year's Meningitis Awareness Campaign.

The children, who are testimony to the advances made against the disease, will seek to remind doctors and parents that because meningitis can kill in hours, minutes cannot be wasted. Early diagnosis and urgent treatment provide the best hope of recovery.

The message is getting through. Despite the huge rise in cases in recent years, the death rate is sharply down. There are even signs that the disease may have peaked. Last winter saw the first fall in total cases of meningococcal disease, the commonest and severest form of meningitis, for six years.

Since the winter of 1991-92, the annual toll has doubled from 1,200 cases to over 2,500 in 1996-97, the highest for 50 years. The increase is thought to be due to greater awareness and better recording, but no one really knows why it should have risen so far and so fast. It is still well below the epidemic of the early 1940s when

cases rose to a peak of 13,000 a year. It is too soon to tell whether last winter's dip is a blip or the beginning of a downward trend but it is the first encouraging sign this decade.

The chances of any individual diagnosed with meningitis surviving to tell the tale have dramatically improved during the 1990s, in spite of the rise in cases. The reason is greater recognition of the need for immediate treatment with antibiotics and improved care. The death rate from meningococcal septicaemia – blood poisoning, and the most serious complication of meningitis – fell from almost 60 per cent in 1989 to under 20 per cent in 1997. Overall, for every 100 people who developed meningococcal meningitis last year, more than 90 survived.

Too many still die. In 1997, there were 243 deaths. The only sure defence against this fatal illness would be a vaccine given in infancy and providing lifelong protection.

Last week scientists revealed a real hope of developing a vaccine against the Group C strain of the disease, the fastest growing one, which accounts for 40 to 50 per cent of all cases. Trials have shown promising results that it could provide lifelong protection from infancy.

Dr David Salisbury, principal medical officer at the health department, which is backing the trials by the Government's Public Health Laboratory Service, said: "The studies will take one to two years to complete. The results so far are very exciting. The vaccine is given at two months of age and produces a fantastic level of antibodies and appears remarkably safe."

Dr Salisbury said progress was also being made towards the development of a Group B vaccine, which caused over half of all cases of meningitis, but that would take longer. Once the studies were complete, there would be a further delay before manufacturers could apply for a licence and produce the vaccine in



Lucy Prescott, a survivor of meningitis whose symptoms were mistaken as tonsillitis

George Phillips

commercial quantities. Details of research on the vaccine were given at a press conference chaired by the Government's chief medical officer, Sir Kenneth Calman, making one of his last appearances in the post – he retires this week to take up a post as vice-chancellor of Durham University. He said the public and GPs should be vigilant for signs of the disease and act quickly where it was suspected.

"The diagnosis is difficult and

the symptoms are often like flu. Any flu-like illness that occurs outside the flu season should be treated with great care," he said.

Sir Kenneth disclosed that students in Southampton, Leicester and Cardiff were being offered vaccination against meningitis because of the history of outbreaks among students in those cities, but it would not be offered to students elsewhere. The existing vaccine against the Group C strain is only partially

effective, lasts for one to two years and does not provide protection to infants under 18 months of age.

The worry about offering a partially effective vaccine, which is anyway active against only one strain of the disease, is that it may induce a false sense of security and lull individuals who fall ill into believing they cannot have meningitis so that they delay seeking medical help. Sir Kenneth said that the decision to vaccinate had been taken by the three

universities concerned and was not appropriate for all students.

There has been great concern about meningitis outbreaks among students, although the peak age is in infants under one. Cases are high in children up to the age of five and the disease kills more children between one and four than any other single factor. A second, smaller peak occurs around the age of 15 onwards and drops off by the age of 18 or 19.

Sir Kenneth said every minute

counted in the management of meningitis and parents of babies who were floppy, unresponsive and unwell with a rash should apply the glass test. Under a glass tumbler, a normal rash disappears but a meningococcal rash does not – time for urgent medical attention. "Be aware, be alert and be active," he said.

The Meningitis Research Foundation operates a 24-hour helpline on 01454 413344

## A fatal case of hypochondria. It happens. And it's usually to men

Males often over-play their illnesses – or are females just unsympathetic? By Dr Ed Walker

ACCORDING TO A survey last week, carried out by the makers of Benlylin, men are hypochondriacal wimps when compared to women. This is at least in part borne out by personal experience. One subgroup of male patients attending the emergency department where I work are without doubt the worst over-exaggerators of symptoms you could ever come across.

They are the martial arts brigade – karate, judo and the like. As patients, they always attend surrounded by two or three colleagues, who support and half-carry the limping victim through the door. They have usually been kicked by someone – and that person's feet are trained to kill, I am informed.

A foot that can break breeze blocks can surely shatter a tibia. But when the injured part is exposed, all you usually find is the faintest imaginable bruise. It is considered bad form not to provide any treatment to such a patient, and they usually limp out with the medically unnecessary, but culturally mandatory, tubular bandage. But the most stoical group of patients, verging on the masochistic, are also men. Rugby players are well known for having their fractured noses straightened pitch-side before playing on. What is less well recognised is the number that will play on with broken ankles and, on one occasion, train for a season with a potentially fatal unstable neck fracture.

The term "hypochondria" comes from the name of an area of the body called, unsurprisingly, the hypochondrium. It is the part just below the bottom of the ribcage, where the cartilage of the ribs joins the breastbone. It is also the area where many people experience the vague flutterings, aches and twinges often attributed incorrectly to serious disease. Hence the term being adopted to describe anyone who persistently worries about their



When it comes to illness, men are the weaker sex

health, or leads unwarranted significance to their symptoms. Doctors are reluctant to tell patients there is absolutely nothing wrong with them, at least until they have been thoroughly investigated. And some patients, even when they have had every test known to medical science, are even more reluctant to accept the diagnosis. This is why a serious case of hypochondria can be fatal these days. A patient may be referred initially by their GP to a general surgeon for investigation of "abdominal bloating". The surgeon finds nothing

wrong, and refers to a gynaecologist, who decides that the back ache is more significant, and refers on to an orthopaedic surgeon. The orthopaedist decides to operate on the patient's back, but after all this they still have the problem they started with. So the original surgeon opens up the abdomen to have a look inside, having turned up nothing on X-ray and ultrasound. The patient dies from post-operative complications, and a post-mortem reveals nothing wrong at all, apart from the damage caused by all the surgery and tests. It happens.

One place where male hypochondria certainly can be found is among medical students. I decided at one time that I had the early symptoms of ankylosing spondylitis, a crippling disease that eventually fuses the spine into a solid rod. All I really had was a trapped nerve in the back. And a friend, after a lot of reading, came up with the idea that he had a rare cancer of the lymph glands. His diagnostic skills were a bit more impressive however, because he unfortunately turned out to be right.

From the results of the Benlylin survey it seems men over-play their illnesses more than women. Or rather that's what the women thought they did, which is not quite the same thing. Women were asked about male partners' behaviour, and vice versa. Men were more likely to describe their viral upper respiratory tract infections as "flu" and transform themselves into a pathetic shambles, whereas the sensible women just called it a cold and got on with their lives. Another interpretation could be that women are less sympathetic about men's illnesses than men about women, but that doesn't make for such a good story.

## Blotched by the sun

When I returned from holiday my chest and back were covered with small, white round patches which completely ruined my suntan. What are they and how can I get rid of them?

## A QUESTION OF HEALTH



DR FRED KAVALIER

You probably have pityriasis versicolor, a fungal infection of the skin caused by a yeast with the delightful name of *Malassezia furfur*. You may have had it for quite a long time, but it has only become noticeable because of your suntan. The yeast affects the pigmentation of the skin. The rash that it causes is usually white on brown skin, and brown on white skin, and it can be slightly scaly. You can treat it with anti-fungal creams (Canesten or Dak-tarin) from the chemist, or by dabbing Selsun shampoo on the spots and leaving it on for 24 hours before washing it off. It is often quite difficult to eradicate, so be persistent.

Is there any effective way to treat snoring? I've tried sewing a cotton reel into the back of my husband's pyjamas, but that has only succeeded in giving him a sore back.

Snoring is common and, unlike most medical problems,

in snoring problems. If yours is severe it might be worth getting some specialist advice.

I am awakened every hour or two at night by the need to empty my bladder, although it is not full. During the day I am fine. Why this difference between day and night? And where is the "water" stored which keeps re-filling my bladder. I am over 80 and had my prostate removed many years ago.

There are likely to be at least two separate factors contributing to your problem. First is your bladder, which sounds as though it has become rather irritable. This means that the bladder wants to empty itself even when it is not full. For some reason this is often worse at night, perhaps because there is nothing to distract from the sensation of wanting to go to the toilet. The second factor is related to how your body controls the production of urine. Normally, the amount of urine we produce is reduced at night, but this natural day-night rhythm can be less pronounced as you get older. The water isn't stored – it is continually being filtered out of your bloodstream by the kidneys.

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درد و ناراحتی



# Poison on our plates

The man blew the whistle on BSE has written a truly frightening book. By Jerome Burne

While reading this book, my children were playing a tape of the fable of The Emperor's New Clothes. Its moral was clear: that pointing out the truth to authority is not only the right thing to do, but it also brings rewards. In the real world, however, pointing out inconvenient truths is rarely appreciated, as Professor Richard Lacey has painfully discovered over the past 15 years.

The man who blew the whistle not only on BSE but also on salmonella, listeria and cook-chill has been forced out of his job, suffered death threats and been dubbed the "mad professor" - a hysteric who was academically out of his depth. Last week, at the British Association for the Advancement of Science festival, I was confidentially told that he was a bit too fond of the media and had ventured out of his field over BSE. This about a man who wrote one of the definitive scientific review papers on the topic back in 1990 and on the day that a news story indicated that BSE could have passed to sheep. A lot of effort went into blackening Lacey's name.

It is now clear that the BSE crisis was appallingly handled. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Maff), other Whitehall departments and the ministers involved were all astoundingly economical with the truth when it came to informing the public about what they knew or, at least, what they suspected. The policy was to avoid admitting anything that might damage the interests of farmers and food producers, regardless of the possible dangers to the public health. In *Poison on a Plate: the dangers of the food we eat and how to avoid them* (Metro, £12.99), Lacey, clearly and straightforwardly, details one fudge and lie after another. It is a shocking read.

For example, the one detail of the BSE story that everyone remembers is that the cows probably developed the disease when they were fed ground-up animal protein. Turning herbivores into cannibals is so horrible it sticks in the mind. What Lacey makes clear, however, is that, although it hardly put farmers in a good light, this explanation suited the farming lobby and their allies such as Maff very well. It provided an explanation of how the whole thing started and, by implication, meant that the trouble should be over once the practise stopped.

But while it may have been a factor as far back as 1988 the government suspected that it wasn't the only one. Another possibility with far more horrifying implications was that BSE could be passed from a cow to her calves. Lacey had suggested as much in 1990 and was dismissed as ignorant and hysterical. However, by that time the government had already carried out top secret tests of precisely this theory.

By 1993 it was clear that it could happen, and eventually it emerged that it occurred in more than 10 per cent of cases where the mother was infected and nearly 5 per cent where she wasn't. Yet no-one officially



Feeding ground-up animals to cattle was certainly an element in the development of BSE

Brian Harris

admitted the fact until last year. What that means is that animal protein in cattle feed isn't the only source of BSE; it raises the possibility that infected humans could pass it on to their offspring.

But the book is remarkably free from "I told you so". He does allow himself a pat on the back when the Government sets up the Food Standards Agency, promises more openness about public health issues and sets up an inquiry to investigate the whole sorry affair - all things he had been agitating for for years.

What the book does show clearly is that BSE was a disaster waiting to happen. The food scares that first brought Lacey to prominence in the Eighties - salmonella and listeria - were dry runs for what happened later. In each case the instinctive response of the ministry was to deny, delay and ignore. Lacey used the media because there were no other channels open to him. Again, the cumulative detail is shocking.

For instance, it emerges that while Maff was denying that there was any problem with salmonella-

infected flocks, it had already spent three years agonising over how much to tell the public about secret reports detailing the level of infection. Similarly, the dangers of both

*The decision not to institute a slaughter programme will prove the biggest disaster both in suffering and hard cash a British government has ever taken in peace time*

listeria and E.coli 0157 were known long before preventable outbreaks of infection killed dozens of people.

But it's all right now isn't it? Matters are certainly better, although the number of food poisoning cases continues to rise. Some

safety standards have been tightened, and Labour's promises of more openness means that the kind of blatant evasions we saw under the Tories should be harder. But there is still the great unknown hanging over BSE. It obviously has infected humans and, although so far there are only officially 27 dead, for a gross underestimate.

What no one knows is how many have been infected by this terrible disease. Hundreds? Thousands? Millions? Lacey plumps for the grim figure of a 5 per cent death rate from CJD (the form BSE takes in humans) in the UK population within the next 10 years. He believes the decision not to institute a major slaughter programme in 1990 will turn out to be "the biggest disaster both in suffering and in hard cash that a British government has ever taken in peace time". Other experts believe he is being wildly alarmist.

The truth is that we just don't know because there has not been the sort of concentrated research campaign into BSE that was brought to

bear on the comparable crisis of Aids. There is not an inkling of a cure, we don't know how BSE is transmitted, and the only way of telling whether animals or humans are infected is by a post-mortem or by taking a brain tissue sample when symptoms are well advanced.

One lesson from the book stands out. The food on our plates suddenly became more dangerous as a result of technological developments that changed the way our food was raised or prepared. Freezing, convenience foods and the microwave contributed to the earlier food poisoning scares, while feeding animal protein to herbivores was an element in BSE. These all had unforeseen effects that allowed otherwise harmless microbes to colonise new territory - the human gut or brain.

Now genetic engineering promises to make equally wide-ranging changes in the nature of our foods, and it is also backed by very wealthy vested interests. Will anyone take notice of the watchdogs when they bark next time around, or will we have to wait until the children start dying?

## Sad? Here's cause to be glad

### HEALTH CHECK



JEREMY LAURANCE

OH DEAR. The world is becoming a more miserable place, according to the Government's chief medical officer. Prescriptions for antidepressants - chiefly Prozac and its relatives - leapt 19 per cent among men and 15 per cent among women in just two years from 1994.

Sir Kenneth Calman, who noted the figures in his seventh and final annual report, *On the State of the Public Health, 1997*, published last week, thinks this is worrying news, a sign of the excessive demands placed on people by modern life.

The rise appeared to indicate a genuine increase in suffering, rather than reckless prescribing and as such "it does merit looking into further", he said.

I beg to disagree. The rise in prescribing is a cause for celebration, not commiseration, a sign that at last misery is being taken seriously as a (frequently) treatable condition. Instead of staring gloomily into the abyss, Sir Kenneth, who retires this week to take up a post as vice-chancellor of the University of Durham, should be breaking open the champagne to mark one of the greater achievements of his reign as the nation's top doctor.

His pronouncement, however, had the predictable effect. Stories headlined, "This pill-popping nation" - bemoaned our increasing reliance on pharmaceutical props. Sir Kenneth played up to the agenda - unwittingly, I suspect - that sees the stress of modern life as the source of all our ills.

Yet one of the most serious of our social ills is the unreasonable fear of psychoactive drugs. Depression exacts a huge toll of human suffering, much of it unnecessary because effective treatment is easily available.

It takes the lives of more than 4,000 people a year, many of them young, by suicide. Fear of the stigma of mental illness and professional reluctance to investigate emotional problems conspire to keep the suffering hidden.

Most people have no difficulty with the beta blockers prescribed to millions to control their blood pressure, or the insulin given to diabetics to control their glucose level, but suggest a pill to boost serotonin levels and they react as if confronted by a drug pusher. Surely, goes the standard response, people should be able to cope without such chemical aids.

Or, in the less charitable version, stop moaning and pull their socks up. Well, up to a point.

There are self-help techniques for dealing with depression - cognitive

strategies related to positive thinking, for example - as there are for holding blood pressure down - such as exercise. But many people find them impossible to apply or that they do not work. Then drugs should be an option.

Many reject drugs because they fear they will become dependent, but this is based on a misapprehension.

Antidepressants such as Prozac are not addictive, even after many years of use. They are chemically different from the benzodiazepine tranquilisers such as Valium, which are addictive, and which are now only used for short-term treatment of a few weeks.

There is also a deeper, moral, fear, typified by the "pill-popping" headlines. This is the view that doctors who hand out Prozac should be classed with barmen pouring whiskies or dealers selling lines of cocaine. It, too, is based on a misapprehension.

Antidepressants do not provide pleasure, they restore the capacity for pleasure.

Depression drains the pleasure, as well as the point, from life. People in its grip lose the sense of their own value and then of the value of anything. They fear being taken for malingers and often feel to blame for their condition. The shame adds to the depression. People taking the drugs for the first time are often surprised at how their mood has lifted without their feeling befuddled.

The drugs do not induce euphoria - they restore normal functioning so that sufferers can get on with their lives.

The Royal College of Psychiatrists launched a five-year campaign in 1992 to counter the stigma of depression and encourage more people to seek treatment.

It has now been extended for a further three years under the auspices of the National Depression Campaign, an umbrella group.

The rise in prescribing is testimony to its success. But there is a lot further to go.

## Give them understanding, not just drugs

Despite research suggesting Ritalin can calm children with ADHD, some experts question the wisdom of relying on an amphetamine. By Roger Dobson

IT HAD, admits Michele Riley, been a bad morning. Her eight-year-old son Aaron had smashed his wardrobe then broken through a locked door into the kitchen before anyone else was awake, leaving a trail of devastation.

"He had got £5-worth of meat out of the fridge and fed it to the cats, then drunk a litre of juice without diluting it and left the fridge door open. He'd got sweets and crisps out, mixed them all on the floor and in the cat litter tray. And then we found he had broken his wardrobe door", she says.

But 20 minutes or so later after the hyperactive Aaron had taken his pill, all is quiet and peaceful in the Riley household in Essex.

"I leave it for 20 to 30 minutes after I have given him the tablet and then I ask him to get ready for school and he says, 'Yes mummy' and then he'll say something like, 'Is there anything I can do for you mummy?' Once he has had his tablet he is a totally different boy," explains Mrs Riley.

Aaron, like his five-year-old brother Martin, has been diagnosed as having attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, or ADHD, and the tablets he takes up to three times a day are Ritalin. New research published this week at a British Psycho-

logical Society conference says that the classroom behaviour of school children on Ritalin improves to the level of children who do not have ADHD. The work, by Rebecca Shaw at Dundee University, found that medication worked better than increased supervision.

But many critics attack the very idea of giving an amphetamine-family drug to children. They also fear that Britain is following the trend in America, where several million children are on Ritalin and some schools report having one-in-four pupils on the medication.

Few conditions and treatment therapies involving children are as controversial as ADHD and Ritalin. At one extreme, it is claimed that five per cent of all children have ADHD and need treatment, while at the other, critics deny the very existence of the disorder and say that drugs dampen what is merely youthful exuberance.

In Britain the number of children being given Ritalin has rocketed over the last six years, according to new figures. In 1992, only 2,000 prescriptions were issued, but in the last 12 months that annual figure had shot up to nearly 100,000 and appears to be more than doubling every year. This does not include drugs given by hospitals to children or those pre-



ADHD-affected children act before they think and are less satisfied with rewards

scribed by private practitioners. One of the problems with ADHD is the difficulty of diagnosis because the symptoms are non-specific and in many cases similar to those seen in a dysfunctional family.

But according to Dr Christopher Green, child care specialist and the co-author of *Understanding ADHD*, it is a real disorder that has been known about for the best part of a century.

"When we talk about ADHD we refer to a slight but demonstrable difference in normal brain function that causes a clever child to underachieve academically and to behave poorly, despite receiving the highest standard of parenting," he explains.

He says that ADHD is caused by a minor difference in the fine tuning of the brain due to an imbalance in the neurotransmitter chemicals, nora-

drenaline and dopamine. This imbalance is mostly found in those parts of the brain responsible for putting the brakes on unwise behavior.

The result is that affected children act before they think, do not consider the implications of a sequence of events and are less satisfied with rewards.

In the USA, ADHD is treated almost universally as an organic disease, with the use of medication, mostly the stimu-

lant Ritalin. In the UK, drug therapy has traditionally been used far less frequently and the symptoms have often been diagnosed and treated with behaviour therapy or counselling.

Dr Alyson Hall, consultant child psychiatrist at the Royal London Hospital, says that in Britain psychiatrists have been careful not to view drug therapy as a panacea for all child behavioural problems.

"There is a small core of children that require medication, but it is a difficult diagnosis to make. Ritalin is an amphetamine derivative and improves concentration. It works by allowing children to stop and think," she says. "Use here varies and some psychiatrists are reluctant to use it, or are philosophically opposed to it."

In the USA there is a backlash against the huge amounts of Ritalin being used. The international pressure group Parents Against Ritalin (PAR) has been active in campaigning and a number of teachers and psychiatrists are also opposing its use with the slogan, "Education not medication".

One of the most vocal of the opponents is Maryland psychiatrist Dr Peter Breggin, who says that the stimulants work by suppressing and controlling children and not by treating any biological problem.

He says the drugs work by making many children robotic, lethargic, depressed and withdrawn. "In the short term, Ritalin suppresses creative, spontaneous and autonomous activity in children, making them more docile and obedient," he says. He also warns, "In the long run we are giving our children a very bad lesson, that drugs are the answer to emotional problems."

But parents like Mrs Riley, who runs the Essex ADHD Family Support Group reject those views.

"Aaron is my oldest child and we knew from day one that there was something different. He was alert all day, he couldn't be put down, he was crying all the time, and he wanted to be involved with everything."

"On one occasion I went to the doctor and told him I felt like either walking out or throwing my son across the room. He turned round and said, 'Why not throw him across the room, I would if he was my son'."

"But I told him I couldn't do that and eventually we went to an assessment centre where they tried him on a quarter of the tablet and it worked such wonders on him, we couldn't believe it. His brother Martin also has ADHD. He has tried Ritalin but it didn't seem to work with him."

Mrs Riley says she is tired of the critics of the ADHD diagnosis and the drug treatment. "I try to explain that the children can't help themselves when they are in one of their tantrums, but there are a lot of ignorant people out there who assume it is a naughty child."

"Because of that, you tend to stick with the people you know. We have walked away from many people we have been friends with for years. It's hard, but you have to just carry on."

The ADHD Family Support Group, 1a High Street, Dilton Marsh, Westbury, Wiltshire, BA13 4DL, has a helpline on 01373 826045. Essex ADHD Family Support Group 01702 30545.

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# If you really want to know, look in the mirror

Funny things, mirrors. But what's really interesting about them is how they reveal human drama. By Tom Lubbock

Jonathan Miller has done it with mirrors before. Last year, for instance, there was an opera programme on television, and he was rehearsing the closing love duet from *The Coronation of Poppea*. He directed the singers to sing it face to face, palms pressed to palms – as though they were each other's mirror images, either side of the glass.

I imagine that the idea was prompted partly by the duet's echoing cadences, partly by a sort of pun on its first line, "Pur ti miro" ("I gaze on you"). And the implied thought, that Nero and Poppea's serene ecstasy is really a mutual narcissism, was perfectly apt. Note that in this brilliant bit of staging no actual mirrors were involved.

There are plenty to be seen in *Mirror Image*, a concept-show devised and curated by Dr Miller at the National Gallery. Mirrors in pictures is the theme, plus reflective surfaces generally. It is rather a Science Museum affair. As well as a very choice assembly of paintings and prints, there are large explanatory wall-boards, and large colour copies of relevant but unobtainable works (such as a full-size repro of Velázquez's *Las Meninas*).

There are diagrams and denotations, mug's guides to the physics of light and the psychology of perception. And there is fun stuff, like a two-way mirror and a mirror that pretends to be a through-doorway. A lecture by Ernst Gombrich with interventions from Harry Worth, that is the tone.

Now it seems to me that a person can be too interested in pictures with mirrors in them. At least, a view of art which is liable to make M.C. Escher seem as valuable as Velázquez must be a limited one. On the other hand, it may be that our artists have more in common with the world of Escher than I would like to admit. And obviously Western art, so obsessed with the look of the world and the act of looking, is bound to be drawn to looking glasses, because they are such visually weird things – in effect invisible objects, only shown by what you can see in them, and what you can see in them does not exist.

Mirrors are in some ways like pictures, in others not, but pictures tend to level all differences: put on canvas, a face and the reflection of a face may look indistinguishable, are equally intangible and equally real. I paraphrase Miller's own reflections on the subject. Most of what his



Narcissus, transfixed by his own beauty, in a painting by 'a follower of Leonardo'

The National Gallery

captions say is true and interesting. Looking at Van Eyck's "Arnolfini Portrait", he points out that, if you concentrate on the image reflected in that famous round convex mirror, you no longer see the mirror as shiny – even though it is hard for us to shed the idea that the shininess of shiny things is a property independent of what they reflect. And he makes you very conscious of all those pairs of tiny white squares that occur in so many paintings – usually called highlights, but indicating reflected windows, windows that may lie well outside the picture's view. Reflections are often used to give a glimpse of a picture's "off-stage", the wider world around it.

So Miller uses pictures to demonstrate perception, and perception as a clue to pictures. Very good. He displays some beautiful and curious instances, like Johann Erdman Hummel's two pictures of a vast and highly polished granite bowl. But this approach risks being rather literal-minded about depiction, by presuming that pictures are normally records of something seen, painted on site. The truth is, pictures are often extremely cavalier about this. They put up a show of visual probability, then do something outrageous – but you are not really meant to notice.

Almost all pictures that show an object, a mirror and a reflection of that object, get the optical relations wrong. Ingres's *Madame Mollo* is a spectacular example: no way could the glass behind her reflect back her profile. Yet to see the image as impossible or paradoxical is to miss its point. Ingres wants to compose a two-fold image of his subject. Optics are just tools for use. Likewise, in the section devoted to self-portraits, though all the artists probably used a mirror in the process, one must recognise that while some are true to or curious about this fact, others are just not.

Well, perception is interesting and paradoxes are boring (yes, even those of *Las Meninas*). I am afraid. What one really wants to see is mirroring used, as Miller used it with that Monteverdi opera, to do human drama. There are excellent examples here. A *Man with a Mirror* (after Ribera) shows a man staring into a square mirror that he holds in front of him with both hands. It seems as if he is holding himself in his hands. In a lovely little Lucian Freud, *Small Interior*, a big free-standing mirror occupies almost the whole image, the artist standing reflected in it, and the mirror is as much a character as the man. Narcissus, as a follower of Leonardo, wins by

concentrating on the young man's gazing face, showing only the very edge of the pool and none of his reflection – good to leave it to the imagination, because in the myth it is his first time with a mirror and he does not know it is him.

And Gustave Courbet – what an intelligent artist! (He is not at all unknown, of course, this fringe impressionist, but the news of just how good he was is still coming in.) In a *Café* does the psychology of isolation simply and superbly and does it with a compendium of mirror effects. A man stands alone, a large café glass behind him; the two people chatting in the café, who he is looking at, only appear as reflections in it, an "off-stage" insert, made small and extra remote; so he seems to turn his back on them too and also upon his own reflection which shares a space with them; thus he is split from his social self. This splitting or doubling is one of the best ways pictures use mirrors.

But you may notice that all those are pictures of men, and it is a general truth. Women and mirrors usually do not get interesting pictorial treatment. Female vanity or male voyeurism is the rule, though it must be said that for cunning titillation, Christopher Wilhelm Eckersberg's *Woman Standing in front of*

a *Mirror* is a neat piece of work. It uses a doubling effect to show the woman twice – naked but with her back to us, and her reflection facing us but cropped just above the nipples by the mirror's frame. A striptease, precisely.

The other big lesson here, not explicitly drawn, is oddly enough about artistic style. Dwelling on all these highlights and reflective surfaces makes you aware that shininess – how glossy a painter makes things look generally, or on the other hand how matt – is one of the great stylistic axes. Some artists create wet/polished worlds, others make dry/rough ones, and which you prefer is a very basic point of taste.

But no doubt there is much more to learn, and any viewer can think up further examples. Here is an oblique one, in the National Gallery itself: Jacob Jordaens' *The Holy Family*. The virgin holds up the baby, staring out earnestly while his gaze drifts to the side. The scene (I interpret) is in front of a mirror, and seen from the mirror's point of view. She is saying "Look, it's you!"

*Mirror Image* – Jonathan Miller on Reflection: National Gallery, London, until 13 December; Admission £5.50, Concs £2.50

## THE INDEPENDENT COLLECTOR

JOHN WINDSOR'S GUIDE TO COLLECTING CONTEMPORARY ART: STEVEN ANDERSON

"ULLO! ULLO! What's going on 'ere, then?" Answer: Well, Hung, Chris Evans's London art gallery, is giving 23-year-old Scottish painter Steven Anderson the first solo show of his self-portraits.

The huge paintings, up to 8ft by 8ft, are not as revealing as they look. The hidden clue is that they were inspired by an emergency operation to remove a brain abscess that Anderson underwent at the age of 17. He nearly died.

If that had happened to you, you might feel an urge to demonstrate to people that the life force is still with you. You might want to actually show it to them by pulling it out of your head, like a vivid membrane. Denied an explanation, however, the first-nighters at the show's opening last week decided that the red extrusion was not a metaphor but a pair of women's thighs. Which, indeed, they are.

Anderson persuaded his girlfriend to buy them from Marks and Spencer in Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. They are large-size, the last pair in the shop. To make the self-portraits he strips, then pulls the thighs over his head, and confronts himself in a mirror – removing the thighs whenever he needs to see clearly to paint.

Self-confrontation is central to the process. That operation left emotional scars. "I felt I had to face what I was most scared of – that is, how I'm perceived by others. Although I did it for myself, I realised that I was painting for an audience."

Hence not only the vulnerable self-exposure of nakedness, but the relaxed and confident pose. He made sure to paint big, larger than life, and to place himself centre-stage. "I wanted the image to be essential, basic. It was not until I stripped off that the dynamics of what I was doing started to work. I began to feel vital, empowered."

But his confidence sagged on opening night. Apprehensive – justifiably, as it turned out – he arrived an hour-and-a-half late.

A couple in their thirties told him they found the "distortions" disturbing. The wife said the images seemed to follow her when she visited other parts of the gallery. She did not want to stay too long because of their impact.

Half a dozen others had a go at him in the same way – an unusual response at an opening, where the standard drill is to face the centre of the room, ignore the artist, drink as much wine as possible, and

gossip. "I was surprised," says Anderson. "It had never occurred to me that there might be open criticism."

Did the first-nighters sense another hidden vein in his work? Witchcraft, perhaps? While in hospital, he was given a copy of John Baptistista Porta's *Natural Magic* of 1558. It speaks of creating new living creatures out of putrefaction, the basis of life. The earlier paintings in Anderson's series are dark. The figures, putrid-looking, emerge from a primordial blackness. Only in the later ones does the vivid red triumph.

Porta's book has an amazingly New Age feel about it. It discusses mental techniques for healing. Although I did the self-portraits instinctively, I afterwards came to realise that I was trying to paint out badness, such as the abscess. Painting was like making spells or affirmations. I wanted something positive to happen. I wanted to produce something beyond the normal body. What I show coming out of my head is a living thing."

Or, could the first-nighters' discomfort have been due to the fact that the paintings, although figurative, are loaded with conceptual content? The action of the figure is ritualistic and its nakedness, Anderson points out, "is the most powerful state to be in for spell-making – there should not be any added ingredients". Even the technical accomplishment of the painting has, despite its anatomical accuracy, an ethereal quality. The outlines seem to be out of register – "like an aura, an extra dimension", says Anderson. The effect results from applying layer after layer of oil paint diluted with Shellac and Damar varnish, which show through one another, like watercolour. "That's how we're made ourselves," says Anderson, "in layers."

After four years at Glasgow School of Art, he came away with a lower second degree. He says staff changes had brought in more and more tutors who preferred conceptual to figurative art. But he stuck doggedly to figurative painting and drawing. No figurative painter in his year was awarded a degree higher than a lower second. "You could say I'm not driven by fashion," he says.

Prices: £450 to £3,000. To 26 September at Well Hung Gallery, 39 Ledbury Road, Notting Hill, London, W11 0JL (0171-727 1357)



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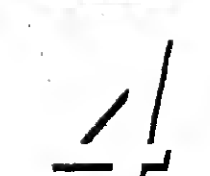
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# MEDIA

The Independent Television Commission is under fire from a host of critics and vested interests. But, argues its chief executive, as the digital revolution sweeps the industry it must stand up for the interests of consumers. By Jane Robins

## Is it time to call off the dogs?

Peter Rogers does not seem to have the weight of the world on his shoulders. Instead, he has the demeanour of a rather affable headmaster, slightly dismayed at the unruliness of his pupils.

And yet Mr Rogers, the chief executive of the Independent Television Commission (ITC), is under attack from all directions. First, there are those who say that the ITC should have no business deciding on whether or not *News at Ten* should be abolished – that such things should be left to the market.

In a second camp are the critics who assert that the ITC is out of its depth when it tries to regulate on economics, and that it has got itself into a mess trying to determine the shape of Britain's digital future. Rarely, since it was set up eight years ago, has the television regulator been so widely criticised.

The latest broadside began at the recent Edinburgh International Television Festival. Peter Bazalgette, the television executive who delivered the prestigious MacTaggart lecture, declared that the age of the ITC was over; that the regulation of television content was redundant, as viewers had become grown-ups and could make their own choices.

The view was seconded by Elisabeth Murdoch, daughter of Rupert, and chief executive of Sky Networks. She spoke of an explosion of choice in television viewing, and of programming decisions no longer being enforced on people from the top down. "The public will decide," she said.

Mr Rogers leapt to his own defence, and seemed very much like a senior figure from the old school taking on uppity young rebels. Then, before the week was out, he was presented with one of the most difficult "top down" decisions of his career. His organisation will, after consultation, have to decide whether the public gets to keep its *News at Ten*.

To some degree, Mr Rogers is caught between a rock and a hard place. Let *News at Ten* remain, and he will receive brickbats from the Bazalgettes and Murdochs who think a fixed time slot absurdly anachronistic when CNN, Sky and the BBC are all broadcasting 24 hours news on other channels.

Allow *News at Ten* to be abolished, and the majority of viewers who have not yet signed up to the new channels will, along with Tony Blair, doubtless voice complaints or even a sense of betrayal.

Mr Rogers acknowledges that he is at an uncomfortable juncture between television past and television future. He says that the ITC's decision on *News at Ten* must be based on the situation as it is now, not as it might be in a year or two's time. "Seventy per cent of people still have only terrestrial channels... and the decision will be harder in a few years when 60-70 per cent are receiving Sky and CNN."

Rogers, 57, is a grammar school boy who became a career civil servant before joining the ITC's predecessor the BBA in 1982. Working his way through the ranks, he reached the top job at the ITC in 1996. His approach hints that ITV may not get its way.

"A decision on *News at Ten* has



Peter Rogers, head of the ITC, has some tough choices ahead – such as a decision on the future of 'News at Ten'

Andrew Baurman

come before the Commission before," he says. "And it may come before the Commission again."

The second line of attack – on the ITC's forays into economic regulation – could cause the regulator, permanent damage. It faces a legal argument that it has been acting beyond its powers – that it has become too big for its boots.

Mr Rogers smiles wryly when this is mentioned, and points out two large black files in his office, full of legal documents. The case, brought by programming company Flextech, is about a phenomenon known in the industry as "bundling" – the process whereby less popular television channels are bundled together with other more desirable channels to make one "package" which then goes on sale to the consumer.

There is a joke which explains bundling. Two mice are sitting together watching television. "Why are we watching the Kitty Kat channel?" says one mouse. "Oh, we had to subscribe to the Kitty Kat channel to get the cheese channel," replies the second.

Mr Rogers and the ITC outlawed "big huddles" of channels, even though bundling contracts had already been signed. They thought it unfair that subscribers to Sky or cable should have to buy into big basic packages of channels, which would include some channels which they simply did not want. Mr Rogers presents his decision as serving consumers' interests.

But the backlash from the television industry has been vicious. "The ITC does not understand the

market," is one allegation. "You can't interfere with contracts freely drawn up between two parties."

"The decision does not serve the consumer at all," is another. "It will mean the end of smaller niche channels, which need to hitch a ride with more populist channels. That reduces viewer choice."

Mr Rogers might well be on shaky ground. When questioned, he acknowledges that two other industry watchdogs, the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) and OFTEL, both reached different conclusions on bundling. They thought the market would sort out the big bundles – that Sky, cable and terrestrial providers would compete to offer smaller, lower priced packages.

"We thought this might happen in the fullness of time," says Mr

Rogers. "But not quickly enough. It was crucial that we intervened and that digital television got off on the right foot."

Many in the industry see this as a busy-body approach, asking not only whether the regulator should be interfering in such matters, but whether it has a role to "promote digital" at all. You don't have car industry regulators promoting hatchbacks, they argue, or building industry regulators campaigning for bungalows.

The ITC is said to be anxious about the imminent judicial review. If it loses, its credibility will suffer greatly at a time when there is a turf war amongst regulatory bodies to see who will survive and flourish in the digital age.

Mr Rogers says that, despite

criticisms that television is dogged by regulatory spaghetti, the ITC or something like it should continue to exist alongside OFTEL and the OFT. He would like to see the demise of the Broadcasting Standards Commission though, and wants the BBC brought under the same regulatory umbrella as commercial companies.

"Television should have a wholly new body," he says, "which is not the ITC. I'm an old man who retires in two and a half years' time – I've no axe to grind."

In that sense, Mr Rogers is battling only to ensure that the ITC distinguishes itself in its final years. It only makes his task harder that these years are throwing up the biggest challenges of the regulator's short history.

## Silly season handouts help 'Express' play catch-up

Sales figures show the *Mail's* big lead is narrowing. By Paul McCann

AUGUST IS not the traditional time to run newspaper promotions as evidenced last week when the starting gun of September went up and half of Fleet Street seemed to see Richard Branson's life story as their circulation salvation.

In fact the two newspapers which tried a small amount of marketing and promotional work last month have made healthy returns in the ABC newspaper figures for August. The *Express* promoted a Millennium scratch card game which helped it increase sales by 28,000 copies more than July. The effect of this is best seen in comparison with the *Daily Mail* which lost over 33,000 copies in August compared with the month before.

The *Express'* deficit to the *Mail* is still mammoth – the *Mail* has double the market share of the tabloid press that the *Express* has – and Rosie Boycott's newspaper is still selling 64,000 copies fewer than it did in August 1997. Nevertheless, a 2.53 per cent growth in sales during one of the worst sales months of the year is still an achievement worth noting.

Unfortunately for the *Express*, the *Mail* is now running its own money give away game and the direction of readers may be reversed during September.

The *Mail's* sales drop helped keep the *Mirror* 50,000 ahead of it, making the late Lord Rothermere's worries about the *Mail* becoming too popular look premature.

The *Mirror* stood virtually still compared with the month before and compared with August 1997 but in a declining popular market standing still is often as good as growth.

David Yelland's *Sun* bucked the trend of previous months and grew faster than the *Mirror* during Au-

NATIONAL NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION			
Daily newspapers	July 1998	August 1998	% change
The Mirror	2,375,064	2,377,782	+0.11
Daily Star	557,243	571,200	+2.50
The Sun	3,678,152	3,707,471	+0.80
The Express	1,123,172	1,151,583	+2.53
Daily Mail	2,345,794	2,312,285	-1.43
Daily Telegraph	1,063,216	1,064,813	+0.15
Guardian	391,238	380,857	-2.65
Independent	220,968	221,915	+0.43
Times	751,274	739,285	-1.60
Sunday newspapers			
News of the World	4,201,864	4,294,318	+2.20
Sunday Mirror	1,976,934	2,019,928	+2.17
Sunday People	1,726,164	1,775,252	+2.84
Mail on Sunday	2,234,040	2,224,776	-0.41
Express on Sunday	1,027,365	1,072,858	+4.43
Independent on Sunday	250,968	256,826	+2.33
Observer	400,747	387,342	-3.34
Sunday Telegraph	827,896	842,055	+1.71
Sunday Times	1,297,990	1,322,537	+1.89

gust: it was up by 28,000 copies a day. But its year-on-year figures are still a cause for worry. In August 1997 the title sold 156,000 copies a day more than this August.

Because the *Mail* has put on almost 100,000 copies in the same 12 month period, the popular market is only down by 193,000 year-on-year, but between them the *Daily Star*, the *Sun* and the *Express* have lost a worrying 288,707 copies a day, fully 2.6 per cent of the entire popular newspaper market.

In Scotland the *Daily Record* had a remarkably strong month, increasing by 4.56 per cent month on month. It was partly helped by the earlier start of the Scottish football season but Martin Clarke is earning plaudits for his newspaper which has increased sales every month since May, thereby reversing the usual

summer trend. Industry analysts also expect the *Record* to do better as Scotland approaches devolution because of its deeper-rooted heritage as a Scottish newspaper.

This newspaper had a small burst of television advertising and a promotional tie-in with *The Avengers* film which helped to maintain the title's underlying growth during the weak summer period.

Sales of *The Independent* increased by 0.43 per cent, or just under 1,000 copies a day. This is positively blooming compared with the *Guardian's* loss of over 10,000 during August and the *Times's* loss of 11,000 compared with July.

The *Times* sold 739,285 during August – over 100,000 copies a day fewer than it was selling in January. Even accounting for the summer downturn, the feeling must be that



Boycott celebrating August sales growth at The Express

the title has extracted all the sales it can from its current price and marketing strategy and needs to spend more of Rupert Murdoch's money if it is to hold readers.

For *The Observer*, a change of editor and a more newsy product came too late to stop it falling below the benchmark figure of 400,000. August notwithstanding, the *Guardian*-owned title was down 13,405 compared with July and 28,000 lower than the year before.

Despite the launch of big gun promotions, book serialisations and television advertising, September could be a sticky month for all broadsheet newspapers. The death of Diana, Princess of Wales boosted all of the quality titles to record September highs. Comparing the coming month with last year is only going to make them all look bad.

## THE WORD ON THE STREET

NO MAGAZINE, it seems, is immune to the hope that the *FHM* effect can work for them, too. That can be the only explanation for the highbrow monthly *Prospect* forming a partnership with Vivus, makers of "the more traditional forms of treatment for erectile dysfunction" – presumably this consists of White House interns, combined with a kind of Meccano set. Together, the upmarket magazine and the upfitting company are offering a £5,000 prize for the best essay on the subject of sex. From the magazine's less than overflowing readership, of policy wonks and think-tanks, it has attracted 300 entries. We must hope that, for these people, the Third Way is as rude as it sounds.

THE RELENTLESS upmarket race of the tabloids knows no bounds. A memo, circulated recently by the *Daily Mail* news editor, demands that all reporters have read the *Financial Times* by the time they get into the office. It is apparently a great source of stories for the paper. That will explain where yesterday's photograph of Scary Spice and her groom came from. Er, well, no – it came from *OK Magazine*.

TABLOID SHOWBUSINESS reporters had to fight back the smiles last week when news reached them that Matthew Freud (pictured), restaurateur and PR to the stars, had been hospitalised with kidney stones after being in pain for a number of weeks. "It's not that we want anything tragic to happen on the operating table," said one high profile showbusiness writer. "But a period of

extended suffering would be nice." It's good to be popular.

THE LONG-standing war between moralists and liberals, to keep filth, violence and other good stuff off of our television screens, saw a battle go to the liberals last week. Sir Peter Rogers, head of the Independent Television Commission, said that, from now on, the ITC is to allow anything that gets a certificate in cinemas straight on to our



television screens. This will dispense with all the battles fought over getting *Reservoir Dogs* on to the small screen without upsetting certain moralising newspapers and rent-a-quote MPs.

ELSEWHERE AT Associated Newspapers, close personal friends of Jonathan Harmsworth, the new Lord Rothermere, had a whole week of thinking that they, like he, were in a job for life. Then the unthinkable happened. Adam Edwards, editor of the *Evening Standard* ES magazine, and a very close personal friend of the new viscount, was sacked.

Another close friend tells The Street: "I've just had my first sleepless night in years." Clearly, Lord Rothermere will be no protector of his buddies. How close he is to Veronica Wadley, features executive of the *Daily Mail*, is unknown, but she is tipped by insiders to become the next editor of the *Mail* on Sunday's Night & Day magazine.

THE DEPARTURE of Michael Foster from his job as Ginger Television's chief executive hints of troubled times ahead at the brash young media group. Well, troubled, at least, for whoever inherits Foster's role of liaising with Alan Patricoff, the man who runs Ginger's financial backers, Apex Partners. Effectively, Patricoff is the man with whom the huck really stops if things ever start to wobble at Virgin Radio. Ginger's finance director Andy Mullet is favourite for the job.

HAVING COST millionaires like Robert Maxwell and the Barclay Brothers large chunks of their fortune it looks like it is the turn of Michael Bloomberg to lose cash on the newspaper for Europe that no one wants to read. Bloomberg's financial information services group is expected to buy a chunk of The European this Thursday. The newspaper is starting to resemble the kind of progressive taxation policies long abandoned on these isles. As a way of making the rich poorer it may lack the redistribution element of Socialism, but hey, as long as it makes them poorer that's the main thing.

SPYING ON THE PRESS



# Sleazy, tasteless and proud of it



The headlines they said could never be written: a selection of the front page scoops that have helped the 'Sunday Sport' keep circulation and profits rising

The Daily and Sunday Sport's blend of sex and schoolboy humour is a success story of tackiness over taste. By John-Paul Flintoff

They don't teach this on journalism courses. Nathan Jones, 19, was offered a job on the staff of a national newspaper after organising an orgy involving a page three girl and 20 of the paper's readers. Other unusual tasks for Jones included wrestling naked with a 20-stone lesbian, eating live maggots and lighting "a firework sticking out of a circus performer's bum". At least, that's what Tony Livesey says in his book, *Babes, Boozes, Orgies and Aliens*, published to coincide with the 10th anniversary of the *Daily Sport*. But you shouldn't necessarily believe it because the *Sport* is a newspaper of which Livesey is editor and managing director – are famous for reporting that World War Two bombers were found on the moon and that aliens turned a British boy into a fish finger. Like the papers themselves, the book looks tacky. Even Livesey's PR hides it when she enters Café F10 on St Martin's Lane – and she's probably wise to do so, because the café's female manager describes his paper as a "disgusting rag". But Livesey, 34, is unfazed. He's coped with

worse, appearing on *Hose I Got News For You?*, *Newsnight*, and Channel 4's *Cutting Edge*. "Every-one talks about that programme," he says. "We had a woman with giant breasts trampling in the office." Channel 4 invited him to make a programme himself, about strange people round Britain. He turned it down. Livesey became editor of *Sunday Sport* in 1993 after six years on the paper, and editor in chief of the group two years ago. He started in journalism on the *Nelson Leader* in Lancashire. After local press he went to work on *Gulf News* in the Middle East. He returned aged 22 and applied for a job as a sports reporter on the *Sunday Sport*. He claims he was given the job to replace a sports reporter fired for refusing to write that Elvis had been spotted at a football match. He claims to have done every job on the paper and last month became managing director of *Sunday Sport*.

Livesey is the man who steered the *Sport* into profit after the regular wiper wiped 5m off its ad revenue by banning 1998 sex lines. The *Sport* has never attracted mainstream advertisers – with the peculiar exception of IBM – but unlike others, has managed to survive without them. And it's relied largely on word-of-mouth for readers: the RBA wouldn't allow TV advertising at the paper's launch. In his first year as editor, Livesey closed the London office (the headquarters are in Manchester), and boosted sales by 100,000 a week, a rise of 33 per cent. Since then – distasteful though it may be – the paper has become rather a success. Valued at £150m, it sells 80 million copies a year. Profits this year were £9m, on a turnover of just £23m. Publisher David Sullivan is the 50th richest man in Britain, worth £350m; and the *Sport* itself can claim to have influenced a whole generation of new titles: *Loaded*, *Mazin*, and *FFHM*. What first took the *Sunday Sport* into profitable sales, in 1987, was the establishment of a "Big Breast Unit", which masterminded topless shots of an 18-year-old – apparently called Tina Small – whose chest measured 84 inches. She was succeeded by a traffic warden who "broke the legendary 100-inch barrier".

Inevitably, the paper has attracted much criticism from "feminists", "bleeding-heart liberals" and "gut-less, politically correct ponces". In the book, Livesey pours contempt on such critics: "Perhaps these short-sighted people would be happier for page-three girls to abandon careers that can earn them up to £1,000 a day and sell cigarettes instead?" As arguments go, this is hardly

watertight, but Livesey takes up the theme again over a plate of fried potato skins: "Feminists say we're exploiting women. Fifty per cent of the models earn more than me. Feminists are more sexist than me. They have fought for freedom, women doing what they want. What's wrong with looking at breasts?" Perhaps I'm not the best person

to ask. What does Livesey's female PR think? "I've no problem with what he says," she states. "I have been topless on holiday – but I have absolutely no intention of going topless here!" To which Livesey replies: "And I respect you for that – but you have the choice." (Later on, Livesey hands me his mobile to speak to one of his colleagues, Millfield-educated Nick Cracknell, who rather lets the side down by cawing: "I used to be a journalist, but now I'm a pornographer.") Suppose they're right. Suppose topless pics really aren't harmful. But what about the *Sport*'s nastier stuff? One of Livesey's predecessors, Drew Robertson, once wrote a column headed "Bollocks to the Press Council", after being criticised for using the words "sicko Chinks" in a piece about eating dogs in China. This was too much even for the *Sport*: Robertson was sacked.

The comedian Jo Brand once dared to criticise the paper and incurred an extraordinarily unkind revenge: Livesey dreamed up a competition based on the earlier "Kill Saddam and win a Metro". Readers were told: "We'll give you a grand if you've been down on Jo Brand." "I have gone too far," Livesey concedes. One of his own ideas was to send a get-well message, concealed in a sausage, to 'Allo 'Allo actor Gordon Kaye, as he lay in hospital recovering from a terrible accident. This, says Livesey, instinctively reaching for superlatives, was "the greatest invasion of privacy in journalism", but it's clear he regrets the incident. "Lessons were learned. We are never doing that again. And after Diana (died), we never entered the auction for pictures." What's more, he claims this week to have turned down topless pictures of Cherie Booth, and notified Downing Street. ("That's disgusting, she's a mother of two [sic].") Not that he's interested in sucking up to Blair: "I'm not a political animal, I'd rather that businessmen ran the country." Take note: businessmen, not journalists. As Livesey sees it, journalists should stick to entertainment. Auberon Waugh, who has written approvingly about the *Sport*, wins his respect: "At first glance he's a pompous old loser, but if you read what he says, he speaks a lot of sense." Kelvin MacKenzie? "An entertainer." John Pilger? "Bored me to tears." The *Mirror* comes in for similar criticism. "It's depressing. There's a new game in our office: how many times can *The Mirror* mention death in one issue?" So is the *Sport* just a comic? "We have the news," he asserts. "You'll find Tony Adams and Bill Clinton. There is less news in the *Daily Mail* than in my paper. [The *Mail*'s] all comment, opinions." But news in the *Sport* could hardly be in-depth, because Livesey has only nine journalists. The founding editor, the late Mike Gabbert – a former deputy editor of the *News of the World* who claimed to have invented the word "bonk" – issued reporters with the following stern injunction: "No effing stories longer than 200 words." But former *Sport* hacks now occupy important positions on major red-top tabloids, says Livesey. "The joke is that we are pilloried by many and scoffed at, but we are providing – if not the backbone of the industry – then at least its right arm."

## A quiet revolution in Wapping

The Sunday Times has changed. But not so as you'd notice. How typical of its mystery editor. By Peter Cole

BY ITS own standards *The Sunday Times* made a few radical changes last Sunday. For the first time in very many years it put its comment and opinion back in the main news section, and altered the *News Review*, the former home of this content, to become a more exclusively commentary and features section. To other newspapers, particularly *Sunday* broadsheets, it was a very small band indeed, a tinker.

Coincidentally, the monthly circulation figures were published, recording *The Sunday Times*'s highest August sale for nearly 20 years, and showing the paper's share of the "quality" Sunday market at 47 per cent. The two events are closely related. While rival titles relaunch, repackaging, sign new writers and change their editors, the market leader does very little. The rivals would be happy to trade innovation for that sort of success.



Andrew Neil: imported Sunday package from America

much imitated, on Saturdays as well as Sundays. The recipe – which is probably why it evokes so much snobbery among journalists who work elsewhere – is to present a mid-market package in broadsheet clothing, with a dollop of broadsheet values around the political and business areas. Elsewhere it is aspirational, puts the word "style" under the cob, defines its own "society" and vigorously reflects the views of conservative middle Britain. It works, to the tune of over 1.3m copies a week. And while some rivals draw attention to the subsidised push into Scotland and Ireland as an explanation for the stubborn re-

fusal of the circulation to fall, the fact is that English readers visiting the newsagent on a Sunday morning usually exchange £1 for a copy. This is not an area where other Sunday broadsheet titles can throw stones without embarrassment. Given this attitude to change, of keeping it evolutionary verging on imperceptible (it is usually driven by production factors – the challenge of printing so much on presses used by other titles), there is perhaps one interesting aspect of what happened on Sunday, one challenge to the Neil orthodoxy. By putting the editorial and op-ed pages into the main news section, *The Sunday Times* is moving slightly away from the "supermarket" formula.

By presenting those pieces which define where the paper stands in the traditional place, the main news section, and out of the ghetto, it is subtly bridging the paper together. This is the first significant editorial content change from Andrew Neil's successor, John Witherow. Neil was a hard act to follow; he had the highest profile of any national newspaper editor and was forever appearing on radio and TV, was a man of considerable intellect with rare gifts of self-promotion and a pathological distaste for what he described as "the establishment". Although *The Sunday Times* is self-evidently bigger than anyone who eddies it, that did not seem to be the case when Neil was in charge. Witherow is very different. More contained, less flamboyant, less outrageous, more "English". Those who like to criticise *The Sunday Times* – almost all journalists who do not work for a Murdoch title – like to describe him as Fleet Street's least known editor. But is that really fair, or more importantly, so what? We have moved out of the era of the celebrity editor. Ask the person in the street to name the editors of any national newspaper, and there would be very few identified. When Rupert Murdoch tired of

celebrity editors – Andrew Neil and Kelvin MacKenzie at *The Sun* – he turned to editors he thought would simply do a good job for him. He preferred them to make money rather than waves. But this is true not only of Murdoch's newspapers. Editors become celebrities if they appear on radio and television regularly; if they front the repercussions of major stories – cash for questions, for example; if their paper transgresses – carrying photographs of Princess Diana in a gown, or if they themselves are the centre of a salacious story – Neil, Donald Treford, Pamela Bordes. They are seldom celebrities if they get on with editing.

Neil reports in his autobiography that Murdoch worried that Witherow was "not driven enough", and "too much of a knee-jerk Tory". Both concerns were clearly overcome, and Witherow was appointed. In Murdoch's terms he has delivered. News International newspapers are not crusades, their journalists not driven by a mission. They refer to the Wapping headquarters not as the office but the plant. Papers like *The Sunday Times* are triumphs of production, marketing and distribution. They are immensely efficient. Editing such a multi-headed hydra demands as many qualities of organisation and management as flair and creativity. *The Sunday Times*, like other Murdoch titles, is more popular in the market place than the media village. Its journalists often feel unloved, and its work regime is often one of authoritarianism and sometimes fear. Witherow has the plant's respect, and the main reason for that is that he runs a successful product. Carping from the chattering journalistic classes is unlikely to bother him.

Peter Cole is professor of journalism at the University of Central Lancashire

## X marks the spot where music died

It started as London's only alternative radio station. But has XFM finally sold its soul? By Richard Cook

THE LAST time Bob Geldof rode in to rescue an apparently unfashionable cause, the issue seemed far from straightforward. But today, the man recently dubbed by the *NME* as "the worst DJ in Britain" is no longer primarily the passionate activist: he's a businessman who has lent his name and record collection to the rebirth of London's formerly alternative radio station, XFM. He is actually supervising, his detractors say, the transformation of a station, set up to break interesting new music, into a bland corporate satellite of the Capital Radio Group. Worse, Geldof's production company, Planet 24, is consulting on the future new sound of the station, a new sound that certainly hasn't found favour with many of the station's hard core listener base. They have set up a protest website, sought meetings with Capital's programming director, Richard Park, and orchestrated a campaign of letter writing to Parliament and the media to protest at what has happened to their station. But XFM wasn't supposed to be like this. This isn't what anyone expected. After six years of struggle, and no fewer than four unsuccessful licence applications, the alternative radio station XFM finally started broadcasting on 1 September last year. It had been a long hard road for the fledgling station, but at least it had been a journey sustained by die-hard supporters, like the Cure's Robert Smith, and by the passionate belief of its energetic founder, Chris Parry.

The fact that he let the station operate on a soft rent out of a house he owned in London's Charlotte Street had also helped. But so too had the dedication of a staff comprised largely of music-obsessed volunteers, of part-timers and of the poorly paid. Their dream was simply that their brand of indie music would ride to the rescue of a city's increasingly bored radio-listening youth. A youth that had become progressively more enervated by the seemingly identical brand of adult orientated rock that was being served up by the heavy hitters of the London music scene – the likes of Capital, Heart FM, and Virgin.

XFM was an independent, battling in a cut-throat London radio market that had become a playground of big business. Its DJs, with the exception of its star daytime presenter, Gary Crowley, were not well known. Sometimes, their broadcast techniques revealed a lack of polish, but their commitment was real enough. XFM was not exaggerating when it claimed it was "London's only Alternative". And yet, six months after its launch, it was hard to see quite why it had bothered. When its first listening figures were released – around Christmas time – they revealed that just 238,000 people were tuning in to XFM every week. A conservative first target of 500,000 listeners had been Parry's aim. It was national grief over the death of Diana, XFM claimed, which was largely responsible. Unfortunately, three months later, the real picture became a lot clearer: By then, just 219,000 people

were tuning in every week. That's considerably fewer than listened to the capital's now-defunct RTL Country station, an ill-fated Country & Western format. Something had to be done. And on 1 May this year, something was. Capital Radio had just lost out to Chris Evans in the battle for Virgin Radio. But it promptly paid £15 million for a 90.1 per cent controlling stake in XFM. Capital initially changed little of the station's output and, by the time the next set of audience figures were produced in June, it seemed as if the alliance had already begun to weave its magic. A figure of 325,000 still seemed a long way off the 500,000 launch target, but the trend was in the right direction. And then Capital decided to act. For a while, at the beginning of August, the station simply played wall-to-wall records. Then, when the DJs returned on 24 August, they weren't the same DJs. The records they played weren't the same. They were more poppy, less alternative. XFM, the detractors said, had really sold out. "Every now and then, there is the glimmer of what it once was – Sparklehorse, Polly Harvey, Six By Seven," reports Jez Simmonds, one of the more moderate contributors to the web pages started by the disillusioned former fans. "More often is the avil-stricken reminder of what has replaced it: Republica, the Beautiful South, Lenny bloody Kravitz." Star presenter, Gary Crowley had led the DJ exodus. In came Bob Geldof and, in the crucial position of programme controller, came Des Shore, who works for Geldof at Planet 24. The Radio Authority says it is monitoring the output to make sure it complies with XFM's original promise of performance. In the meantime, nurtured on a new diet of bands like U2, Bob Dylan and Van Morrison, the protests of the indie aficionados will just get louder: and XFM's listenership, Capital promises, will just get bigger.



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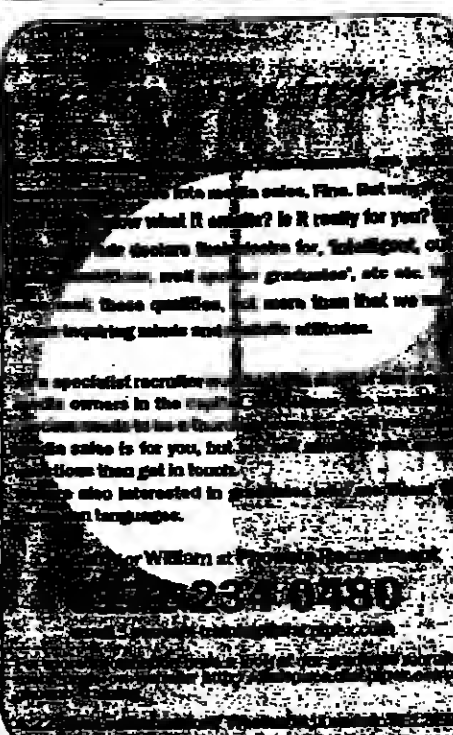
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## NEW FILMS

**BABYMOOTHER (15)**  
Director: Julian Henrichs  
Starring: Anjela Lauren Smith, Wil Johnson, Caroline Chikezie  
An endearing reggae musical which takes an old idea and douses it in gaudy colours - quite literally, in fact, given that it sometimes looks as though the print has been splattered with Day-Glo paint. Anita (Anjela Lauren Smith) is a "baby-mother" - a woman saddled with children at a young age. She lives in north London and longs to be a reggae star, but her dreams are confounded not only by her responsibility to her son and daughter, but by their calculating father, who feels that his own imminent stardom would be jeopardised by Anita's success. The final musical showdown between the pair is clumsy, but for the most part, this is a fresh and engaging delight. **West End: Ritz Cinema, Virgin Trocadero**

**COUSIN BETTE (15)**  
Director: Des McAnuff  
Starring: Jessica Lange, Elisabeth Shue, Bob Odenkirk  
Balzac's novel about romance and deception in 19th-century France is the basis for this shallow but breezy comedy. Jessica Lange plays Bette, who is appointed housekeeper to the family of her late cousin. In the pursuit of love in her own life, she inadvertently weaves a web of betrayal around everyone she knows - her cousin's daughter, Hortense (Kelly McDonald), her actress friend Jenny Cadine (Elisabeth Shue), and most of all Wenceslas (Aden Young), a sculptor to whom Bette has been assigned to paint. Although the director Des McAnuff can't keep his film from wandering, there are enough precious comic moments to make it a pleasing diversion. **West End: ABC Baker Street, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Haymarket, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Swiss Cottage**

**SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (15)**  
Director: Steven Spielberg  
Starring: Tom Hanks, Edward Burns, Matt Damon  
Steven Spielberg's Second World War drama focuses on a mission with more than a hint of

public relations about it. Three brothers are killed in action, and their mother is about to receive the triple dose of bad news in one go; the fourth and youngest, James Ryan, is still in combat. Captain John Miller (Tom Hanks) is dispatched with his squad to seek out the young Private behind enemy lines and return him home to safety. It is unlikely that many viewers will emerge from the picture warmed by emotional catharsis, though there is plenty of it in evidence. It is the harsh, devastating battle sequences which are branded on the memory, and which momentarily suggest that the film will be something more adventurous and resonant than your average war movie. It isn't. But the promise alone is, in itself, strangely compelling. **West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Elephant & Castle, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritz Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero**

**LA VIE DE JESUS (THE LIFE OF JESUS) (NC)**  
Director: Bruno Dumont  
Starring: Bruno Dumont, Marjorie Cotterel, Genevieve Cotterel, Kader Chetoui  
Bruno Dumont's brilliant debut feature suggests *Los Olvidados* on downers. In a desolate, lifeless town in northern France, a group of twenty-something friends rattle around on their motorbikes, occasionally venting racist anger against some local Arabs. The film's main focus is Freddy (David Douche), an epileptic boy whose gentle, but occasionally fraught, relationship with his girlfriend provides the picture with the closest thing it has to dramatic momentum. The performances in the film by a cast of non-professionals are impressively raw, but it's Dumont's attentive, compassionate approach which makes the film special. **JCA Cinema**

Ryan Gilbey

## THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS



### Film Ryan Gilbey

**WHIT STILLMAN** is a maker of anthropological comedies. His previous features, *Metropolitan* and *Barcelona*, focused on the attempts of the intellectual middle-classes to control their environment through a manipulation of codes and etiquette which could reasonably be described as Jamesian. His new film, *The Last Days of Disco* (left), continues the theme. It's set in "the very early Eighties" and follows the insecure Alice (Chloë Sevigny) and her benignly narcissistic friend, Charlotte (Kate Beckinsale), as they gravitate towards the hippest nightclub in town. On general release John Boorman is a highly variable film-maker, but when he's good, he's up there with the best. His chilling 1972 film *Deliverance* is a good example, in which a group of friends on a canoeing holiday (including Jon Voight and Burt Reynolds) find that nature isn't on their side. Take your bandages for some audience participation. **Phoenix Picture House, Oxford (01865 554909) 6.15pm**

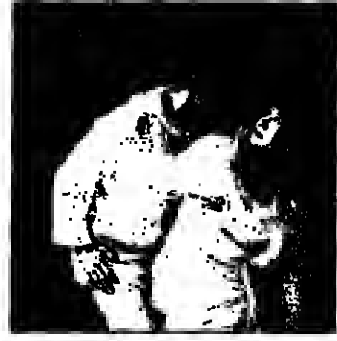
### Pop Tim Perry

ONE OF the surprise hits of the year has been *The Mavericks* (right) who have shaken off their Nashville country image and gained a wide following thanks to a musical portfolio which embraces easy listening, party attitudes and Hispanic vibes. Both the single, "Dance the Night Away", and the *Trampoline* album enjoyed long stints in the charts. In Raul Malo they have a highly competent frontman, while the brass of the Havana Horns really lives things up on stage. Only a few tickets remain for this gig, while on Wednesday and Friday of this week they have a prestigious double date at the Royal Albert Hall. **Corn Exchange, Cambridge (01223 357851) 8pm**  
Perhaps the most interesting showcase at this year's "In the City" event comes courtesy of the fantastic Clint Boon Experience. The former Inspiral Carpets-keyboardist has bounced back with a new set of ace pop tunes laced with humour - he's also proven that he's a great singer, too. Well worth the crush to get in. **Floorage & Frisk, Manchester (0161 274 3882) 8pm**



### Theatre Dominic Cavendish

**SPERM WARS** might make a sexy title for a popular science paperback, but it does little justice to David Lewis's delightful debut comedy about an infertile lecturer, his wife and their geeky doctor, in which clinical discussions give way to jealous set-tos. It doesn't quite get there in the end, but en route there are some real insights into the irrational forces which drive couples together and apart. **Orange Tree, Richmond (0181 940 3533) 7.45pm**  
Peter Sellers's 400th anniversary production of *Peony Pavilion* (right) is an extraordinary collaborative effort, filtering Tang Xianzu's Kun opera/drama through a 20th-century lens. The work centres around a young girl's long journey to meet her lover. **Barbican Centre, London EC2 (0171 638 8891) 6.30pm**



### Art Richard Ingleby

OF ALL the British artists who have made it big in the last few years, Gary Hume (below), winner of last year's Jerwood Prize, looks to me like the one who'll last the distance and continue to build on his early success well into the next millennium. This week, he's been meddled with the outside of the Hayward Gallery by painting the poster boards and walkways with plaster-pink household gloss. It ought to cheer the South Bank up a little. **Outside the Hayward Gallery, London SE1 (0171 921 0600) to 4 Oct**  
Given that carving wood is such a basic, primitive mode of visual expression, it is strange that there are so few really good sculptors working in the medium. David Nash is one. Richard Bray, whose new work went on show in London yesterday, looks like being another. It's a simple, very satisfying form of art. **The Fine Art Society, 148 New Bond St, London W1 (0171 629 5116) to 8 Oct**



## GENERAL RELEASE

**ARMAGEDDON (12)**  
This deeply stupid film purports to be a tender love story, a meaty action adventure and a global disaster movie in which a meteor is on a collision course with Earth. Its jumble of styles will end up pleasing no one. **West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End**

**THE AVENGERS (12)**  
Ralph Fiennes dons the bowler hat and wields the cane as Sled, Uma Thurman pours herself into a catsuit as Emma Peel, while Sean Connery saunters around in a kilt as August De Winter, who plans to take over the world by controlling the weather. **West End: Warner Village West End**

**LE BOSSU (15)**  
Sumptuous swashbucklers are fast becoming French cinema's stock-in-trade. This effort doesn't break much new ground, but is acted and shot with such magnificent braggadocio that its lack of originality is never a problem. **West End: ABC Swiss Centre, Curzon Mayfair**

**THE DAYTRIPPERS (15)**  
Worried that her publisher husband may be having an affair, Eliza (Hope Davis) confides in her parents, only to find that the whole family insists on accompanying her to Manhattan for the day to confront him. First-time writer-director Motzola charts the tensions of the family car journey with unerring wit and unexpected compassion. **West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Swiss Centre**

**DR DOLITTLE (PG)**  
The thought of Eddie Murphy functioning within the restrictions of a PG certificate may not be a promising one, but *Dr Dolittle* proves that his talents are surprisingly pliable. **West End: Hammersmith, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End**

**EVER'S BAYOU (15)**  
Rites-of-passage drama set in Louisiana locations which have been developed by too many Southern Comfort ads. With Samuel L. Jackson, Lynn Whitfield and Debbie Morgan. **West End: Odeon Mezzanine, Virgin Trocadero**

**HANA-BI (18)**  
Director-star Kitano picked up the Golden Lion at last year's Venice Film Festival with this violent yet elegiac portrait of a brutal Japanese policeman pushed over the edge by his traumatic personal life. **West End: ABC Shaftesbury Ave**

**HANDS (AKA PALMS) (PG)**  
The director of this harrowing semi-documentary has been compared to Pasolini and Tarkovsky, but though this is an imaginatively realised rumination on the workings of the modern world, the picture is deadening in a way that those directors' best work never was. **West End: Remor**

**HE GOT GAME (18)**  
The plot of Spike Lee's muddled tale is pure poppycock: Jake Shuttleworth (Denzel Washington) is doing time for the murder of his wife, but is offered a deal which could cut short his sentence if he can persuade his basketball-star son to sign up with the Governor's alma mater. Lee coaxes an impressive performance from Washington, but it is his own stylistic excesses which are the film's undoing. **West End: Odeon Kensington, Ritz Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero**

**THE HORSE WHISPERER (PG)**  
Robert Redford's film of Nicholas Evans' novel is a textbook lesson in the narcissistic allure of cinema. Redford plays a Montana farmer who specialises in equine psychology. He agrees to help magazine editor Kristin Scott Thomas whose daughter has been traumatised in a riding accident. **West End: Chelsea Cinema, Clapham Picture House, Hammersmith, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritz Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero**

**THE LAND GIRLS (12)**  
Rachel Weisz, Anna Friel and Catherine McCormack are the "land girls" called upon in WWII to pick up the discarded ploughs and take the place of the farmers who have departed for war. Nothing surprising here - sexual awakening, broad laughs, a smattering of tragedy - but very nicely done. **West End: Screen on the Hill, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End**

**THE LAST DAYS OF DISCO (15)**  
See *The Independent Recommends*, above. **West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Richmond Picturehouse, Rio Cinema, Ritz Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End**

**LOCK, STOCK & TWO SMOKING BARRELS (18)**  
Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels follows the lead of Quentin Tarantino but the film's defining characteristic is its resilient morality. The picture is peopled by thugs, both amateur and professional. Young Eddy, who comes yastuck in a high stakes card-game, falls into the former; but Hatchet Harry, to whom he owes £500,000, is a dangerous old-school pro. **West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Elephant & Castle, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritz Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End**

**LOST IN SPACE (PG)**  
Lost in Space is yet another cult 1960s television series to get an expensive makeover, but the film-makers have remained faithful to the original tone and the movie looks terrific. William Hurt stars as a frosty scientist who journeys with his family into space to save the Earth from environmental destruction and, of course, learns how to bond with his kids in the process. **West End: Odeon West End**

**THE REAL HOWARD SPITZ (PG)**  
The *Real Howard Spitz*, a sunny comedy about a children's writer (Kelsey Grammer, aka Frazier) who hates children, is director Vadim Jean's most likeable work. Originality may be thin on the ground, but the direction is breezy and Grammer has a lovely, grouchy demeanour. **West End: UCI Whiteleys**

**SPECIES II (18)**  
Ludicrous science-fiction horror about a strand of alien DNA carried back to earth in the bodies of astronauts, Cornball dialogue and a healthy abundance of sex and violence make this passable B-movie fun. **West End: Elephant & Castle, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero**

**THE WEDDING SINGER (12)**  
A shamelessly dumb but very winning comedy starring Adam Sandler and Drew Barrymore. **West End: Odeon Mezzanine, Warner Village West End**

**THE X-FILES (15)**  
David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson reprise their roles as FBI agents Mulder and Scully and, for their first big-screen outing, involving a shifty secret government and a deadly virus from outer space. Duchovny and Anderson are most engaging, through little dialogue and even less facial movement they manage to convey great tenderness. **West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Hammersmith, Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero**

## CINEMA

### WEST END

**ABC BAKER STREET**  
(0171-935 9772) @ Baker Street  
Cousin Bette 12.00pm, 3.40pm, 6.00pm, 8.30pm, The Daytrippers 1.40pm, 3.50pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm

**ABC PANTON STREET**  
(0171-930 0631) @ Piccadilly  
Cousin Bette 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Jackie Brown 1.30pm, 4.40pm, 7.45pm, Live Flesh 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm The Proposition 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.25pm

**ABC PICCADILLY**  
(0171-437 3561) @ Piccadilly  
Cousin Bette 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Love and Death on Long Island 1.25pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

**ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE**  
(0171-836 6272) @ Shaftesbury Ave  
Cousin Bette 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm The X-Files 12.50pm, 3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm

**ABC SWISS CENTRE**  
(0171-439 4470) @ Leicester Square/Piccadilly Circus  
Le Bossu 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm The Daytrippers 1.10pm, 3.10pm, 5.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.10pm The Daytrippers 1.10pm, 3.10pm, 5.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.10pm Deconstructing Harry 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

**ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD**  
(0171-636 6148) @ Tottenham Court Road  
The Last Days of Disco 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6.40pm, 9.15pm Saving Private Ryan 1.05pm, 4.40pm, 8.20pm

**BARBICAN SCREEN**  
(0171-367 7000) @ Moorgate  
The Spanish Prisoner 7.30pm, 9.15pm The Spanish Prisoner 6.15pm, 8.40pm

**CHELSEA CINEMA**  
(0171-351 3742) @ Sloane Square  
The Horse Whisperer 1.05pm, 4.25pm, 7.50pm

**CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE**  
(0171-498 2242) @ Clapham Common  
The Horse Whisperer 1.30pm, 4.30pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm The Last Days of Disco 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Saving Private Ryan 1.30pm, 4.45pm, 8.15pm

**CURZON MAYFAIR**  
(0171-739 1720) @ Green Park  
Le Bossu 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm

**ELPHANT AND CASTLE CORONET**  
(0171-703 4968) @ Elephant & Castle  
Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 4.15pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm, 7.40pm Saving Private Ryan 4.05pm, 7.40pm, 10.15pm, 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

**EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE**  
(0171-437 1234) @ Leicester Square  
Godzilla 2pm, 5.10pm Saving Private Ryan 12noon, 4pm, 8pm Species II 1pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

**GATE NOTTING HILL**  
(0171-727 4043) @ Notting Hill Gate  
The Spanish Prisoner 1.40pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm

**HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN**  
(0171-907 0718) @ Ravenscourt Park/Hammersmith  
The Horse Whisperer 1.20pm, 4.50pm, 8.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Saving Private Ryan 12.20pm, 4.20pm, 8pm The X-Files 12.15pm, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm

**JCA CINEMA**  
(0171-930 3647) @ Charing Cross  
The Connection 6.30pm The Trip 8.45pm La Vie De Jesus (The Life of Jesus) 5pm, 7pm, 9pm

**MEISTRO**  
(0171-437 0757) @ Piccadilly Circus/Leicester Square  
Latin American Film Festival Phone cinema for details

**CURZON MAYFAIR**  
(0171-369 1723) @ Knightsbridge  
Psycho 3pm

## NOTTING HILL CORONET

### WEST END

**ABC CAMDEN TOWN**  
(0171-935 9772) @ Camden Town  
Cousin Bette 12.00pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm The Last Days of Disco 12.45pm, 3.25pm, 6pm, 8.50pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.55pm Saving Private Ryan 12.30pm, 4.10pm, 7.45pm, 10.25pm Washington Square 12.25pm, 2.45pm, 5.40pm, 8.45pm

**ODEON HAYMARKET**  
(0181-315 4212) @ Piccadilly  
Cousin Bette 1.25pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm

**ODEON KENSINGTON**  
(0181-315 4214) @ High Street  
Cousin Bette 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.40pm The Horse Whisperer 1.15pm, 4.55pm, 8.35pm The Last Days of Disco 1.20pm, 4.05pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.15pm, 4.40pm, 7.25pm, 10.10pm

**ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE**  
(0181-315 4215) @ Leicester Square  
The Horse Whisperer 12.50pm, 4.15pm, 7.50pm

**ODEON MARBLE ARCH**  
(0181-315 4216) @ Marble Arch  
Armageddon 3.05pm, 8.50pm The Horse Whisperer 1.35pm, 5.15pm, 8.45pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.15pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.55pm Saving Private Ryan 1.15pm, 5.05pm, 8.40pm Species II 12.55pm, 6.30pm The X-Files 12.55pm, 6.40pm, 9.35pm

**ODEON MEZZANINE**  
(0181-315 4217) @ Leicester Square  
The Last Days of Disco 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm The Object of My Affection 1.35pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm The Spanish Prisoner 1.25pm, 4pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Titanic 12.05pm, 3.45pm, 7.25pm The Wedding Singer 2.25pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

**ODEON SWISS COTTAGE**  
(0181-315 4220) @ Swiss Cottage  
Armageddon 2pm, 5pm, 8pm Cousin Bette 12.45pm, 3.25pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Horse Whisperer 12.30pm, 4.05pm, 7.45pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm Saving Private Ryan 12.30pm, 4pm, 7.40pm The Spanish Prisoner 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm

**ODEON WEST END**  
(0181-315 4221) @ Leicester Square  
Lost in Space 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm The X-Files 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm

**PHOENIX CINEMA**  
(0181-444 6789) @ East Finchley  
The Horse Whisperer 2.30pm, 8.10pm The Spanish Prisoner 5.50pm

**PLAZA**  
(0171-437 1234) @ Piccadilly  
Cousin Bette 1.30pm, 4.45pm, 8pm The Castle 5.05pm, 8.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.30pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Saving Private Ryan 3.15pm, 7.15pm, 10.15pm, 1.25pm, 4.25pm, 8.25pm

**REINOR**  
(0171-837 8402) @ Russell Square  
Gadjo Dilo 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Hands (aka Palms) 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm

**RO CINEMA**  
(0171-254 6677) @ Dalston  
Kingdom The Last Days of Disco 1.10pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm Godzilla 12.10pm, 3.20pm The Horse Whisperer 1pm, 4pm, 8.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 2pm, 4.40pm, 7.40pm, 10.40pm

**RITZY CINEMA**  
(0171-737 2121/733 2229) @ Britton  
Babymother 8.45pm, 3.45pm, 5.35pm, 9.20pm He Got Game 4.05pm, 9.05pm The Last Days of Disco 1.15pm, 3.50pm, 6.25pm, 9.05pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.20pm, 4.35pm, 7.05pm, 9.25pm The Pillow Book 1.30pm, 3.40pm, 5.50pm, 8.00pm The Spanish Prisoner 1.40pm, 6.50pm

**SCREEN ON BAKER STREET**  
(0171-486 0036) @ Baker Street  
The Horse Whisperer 3.25pm, 6.40pm, 9.55pm Saving Private Ryan 3pm, 7.20pm

**SCREEN ON THE HILL**  
(0171-435 3369) @ Belzize Park  
The Land Girls 3.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm

**SCREEN ON THE HILL**  
(0171-435 3369) @ Belzize Park  
The Land Girls 3.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm

**SCREEN ON THE HILL**  
(0171-435 3369) @ Belzize Park  
The Land Girls 3.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm

## SCREEN ON THE HILL

### WEST END

**ABC WHITELEYS**  
(0171-792 3332) @ Baywater/Queensway  
Armageddon 12.15pm, 3.55pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm Dr Dolittle 2pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.30pm The Horse Whisperer 1.30pm, 4.45pm, 7.50pm The Land Girls 6.20pm, 9.10pm The Last Days of Disco 1.20pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.35pm, 9.10pm Saving Private Ryan 1pm, 2.40pm, 4.30pm, 6.25pm, 8.35pm Species II 9.55pm, 1.30pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm

**VIRGIN CHELSEA**  
(0870-9070711) @ Sloane Square/South Kensington  
Armageddon 5.20pm, 8.30pm The Last Days of Disco 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Saving Private Ryan 12noon, 4pm, 8pm

**VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD**  
(0870-9070711) @ South Kensington  
Armageddon 1.45pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm The Horse Whisperer 1.45pm, 4.55pm, 7.55pm The Land Girls 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Saving Private Ryan 1.10pm, 4.40pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm The Spanish Prisoner 1.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm The X-Files 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm

**VIRGIN HAYMARKET**  
(0870-9070712) @ Piccadilly  
Cousin Bette 1.05pm, 3.20pm, 5.45pm, 8.35pm The Last Days of Disco 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Spanish Prisoner 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

**VIRGIN TROCADERO**  
(0870-9070716) @ Piccadilly  
Cousin Bette 1.50pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm Babymother 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.30pm He Got Game 1.40pm, 5pm, 8pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 9pm Saving Private Ryan 1.20pm, 4.50pm, 8.15pm Species II 12.10pm, 3.10pm, 5.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.10pm The X-Files 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm

**WARNER VILLAGE WEST END**  
(0171-437 4347) @ Leicester Square  
Armageddon 2.10pm, 5pm, 8.00pm The Avengers 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6pm, 8.20pm City of Angels 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.20pm Dr Dolittle 1.40pm, 4.50pm, 7.50pm, 10.40pm The Land Girls 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm The Spanish Prisoner 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm The Wedding Singer 2.25pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm

**WARNER VILLAGE**  
(0181-592 0201) @ Dagmar  
Armageddon 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 9.15pm Dr Dolittle 2.40pm, 4.40pm, 6.40pm The Horse Whisperer 4pm, 7.30pm, 10.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Lost in Space 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Saving Private Ryan 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm Species II 1.15pm, 3.20pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 9.40pm The X-Files 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm

**WARNER VILLAGE**  
(0181-592 0201) @ Dagmar  
Armageddon 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 9.15pm Dr Dolittle 2.40pm, 4.40pm, 6.40pm The Horse Whisperer 4pm, 7.30pm, 10.30pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Lost in Space 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30



[illegible]



<b>ACROSS</b>	<b>DOWN</b>
1 Young mare (5)	1 Stories with a moral (6)
4 German beer-mugs (6)	2 Flowering shrub (5)
9 Equilibrium (7)	3 Tug (4)
10 Large deer (5)	5 Wednesday (8)
11 Every (4)	6 Put on a pedestal (7)
12 Type of dog (7)	7 Clippers (6)
13 Tree (3)	8 Profoundly (5)
14 Scented powder (4)	13 True (8)
16 Finished (4)	15 Worry (7)
18 Cut grass or hay (3)	17 Standing (6)
20 Structure of woven fabric (7)	18 Military decoration (5)
21 Festivity (4)	19 Artitude (6)
24 Greek letter (5)	22 Present (5)
25 Refrain from voting (7)	23 Scandinavian capital (4)
26 Entitled (6)	
27 Command (5)	



